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EAGLES OF DEATH METAL

REVIEWED: LIVE IN PARIS

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KELLIN QUINN'S WEIRD WEEKEND

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MIKEY WAY

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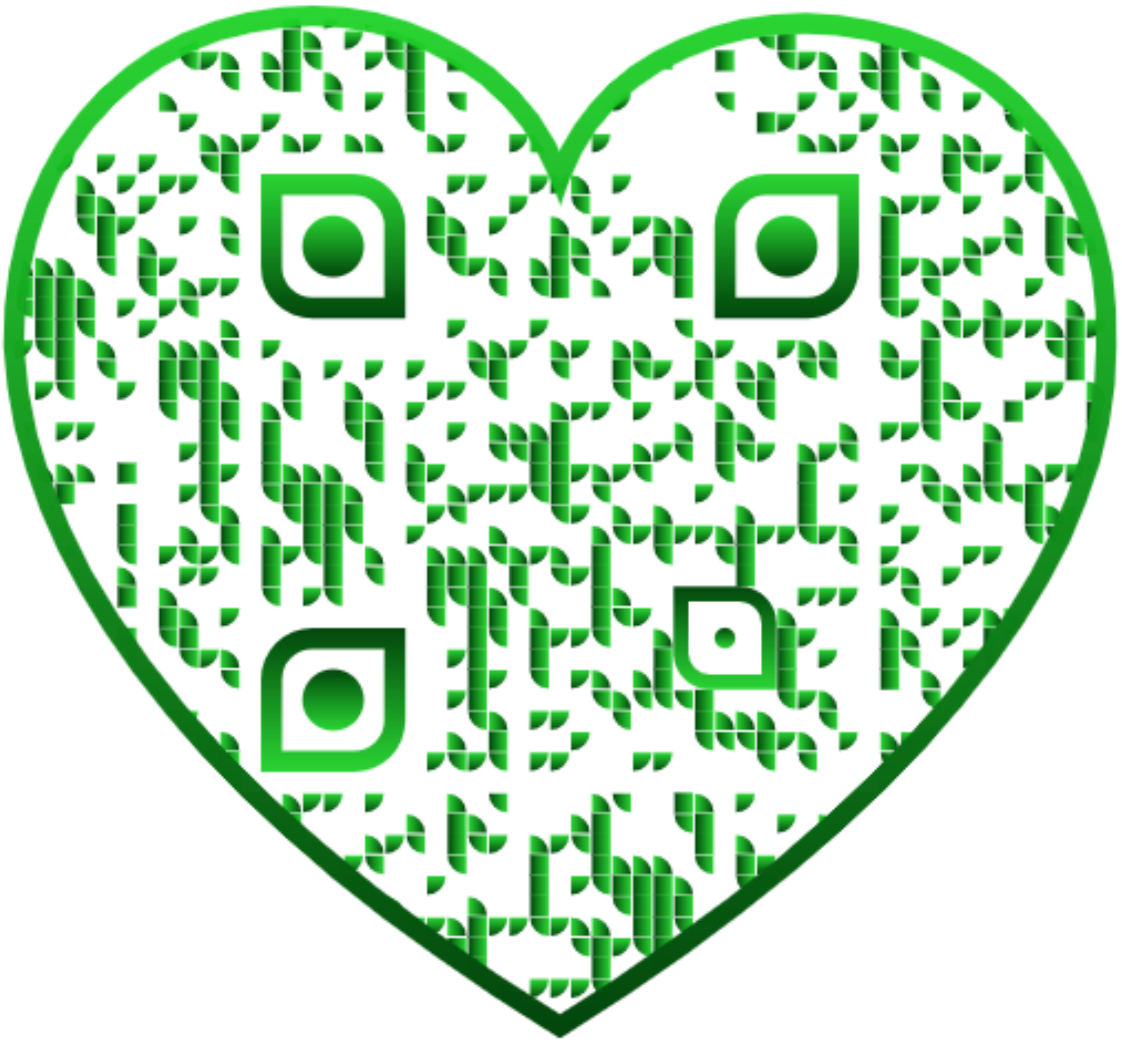

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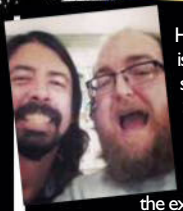
BMTH p48

When BMTH's table ran out of drink, Oli took to Coldplay's to get more...



HELLO, READERS. Welcome to this week's issue of Kerrang! – and it's a belter, I have to say. On p18, Hannah Ewens' cover story with Sleeping With Sirens frontman Kellin Quinn is maybe the most interesting piece I've ever read on a man who marvels in showing as little as possible to the world. We've got the exclusive lowdown on everything you need to know about the return of Good Charlotte on p26. And, finally, the secret is out – you can find out how you can get Mikey Way's debut album under the Electric Century moniker, only with this magazine, in two weeks' time! Turn to p4 now… Enjoy the issue.

James
Editor

NEWS

ON THE COVER: Mikey Way gives his album away free in Kerrang! **(p4)**, **Lonely The Brave** tell us all about their new album and **Slam Dunk** announces more bands **(p6)**. Elsewhere, rock goes to Hollywood with **Jamie Campbell Bower (p8)** and we look at the most rockin' statues around **(p10)**.

FEATURES

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ON THE COVER: Weather's crap, ain't it? Feeling glum? Well, let **PVRIS**, **Gerard Way** and more inspire you with these quote-tastic posters **(p30)**.

LIVES

ON THE COVER: Oh Lord! How was the **Kerrang! Tour 2016** for you? Unless your answer includes 'amazing', 'ultra-exciting' and 'very tiring', you weren't there **(p44)**. And in-between rocking up and down the country, we found time to hang out with **All Time Low** at **The O2 (p46)**, get barbecued with pyro by **Parkway Drive (p48)** and got all romantic with **Escape The Fate** and **New Years Day (p49)**.

REVIEWS

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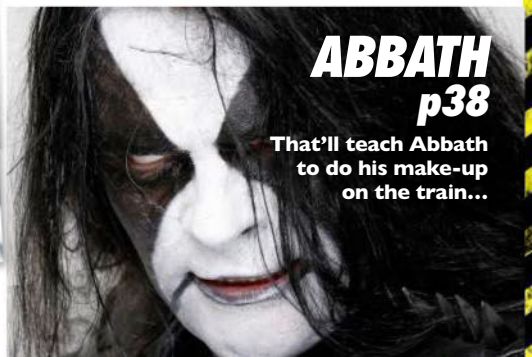
GIGS

Baroness' John Baizley is hoping they'll be able to finish their upcoming UK tour this time around **(p56)**, while **Benji Webbe** takes us around Newport, and it's not that bad **(p58)**…

COVER PHOTO: LINDSEY BYRNES



ABBATH p38

That'll teach Abbath to do his make-up on the train...

THE BIG STORY

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING EVER

ALBUM OF THE CENTURY

MIKEY WAY'S **ELECTRIC CENTURY** ARE FINALLY READY TO LAUNCH THEIR DEBUT ALBUM! AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO DO THAT THAN BY GIVING IT AWAY IN **KERRANG!** IN TWO WEEKS...

WORDS: MARK SUTHERLAND **PHOTOS:** DUNCAN BRYCELAND/RETNA PICTURES

TWO YEARS after Mikey Way first told us about his new, post-My Chemical Romance project, the Electric Century is finally ready to begin. The band – which features former MCR bassist Mikey and vocalist David Debiak – were originally supposed to release their debut album, For The Night To Control, in the summer of 2014. But finally, after numerous delays caused by Mikey's treatment for personal problems, he's ready to release it to the world – and the really exciting news is that it will be happening exclusively via Kerrang!. A regular release will follow at some point in the future, but, to be honest, you're advised to start camping out in front of your newsagent now in order to make sure you don't miss out. To keep you occupied before that momentous day, however, we tracked Mikey down in California and grilled him about why the album took so long, what it sounds like and why he decided to give it to you lot first, and for absolutely zero pence…

THE ALBUM'S FINALLY FINISHED… WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?

"It's been quite an undertaking! Life got in the way of music for a while. I had to put the brakes on it for a bit, to get myself well again and get myself back into a mind space to create again. It was a start-and-stop process, but it actually ended up helping the album, 'cause it's even stronger now than it was when I was first going to release it."

WHEN WE SPOKE TWO YEARS AGO, YOU WERE HOPING TO RELEASE IT IN SUMMER 2014. THAT OBVIOUSLY DIDN'T HAPPEN…

"Yeah, we're forever delayed! It was a happy accident that it got delayed, though. I didn't do it on purpose, but I was able to really scrutinise the album and the songs. Some made the cut, some didn't, and we were able to tweak songs as time went on. Normally you don't have that luxury. Has it changed much? I don't think it's different, just stronger. It's more of a body [of work], it's very cohesive."

AND YOU'RE GIVING IT AWAY WITH THIS VERY MAGAZINE…

"Yeah! You guys are going to get the first shot at unveiling it to the world. It's a real privilege for us."

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO DO THAT?

"I wanted to do something that was a little risky. I can't recall this being done, at least not in a long time. I think maybe Prince did it [*Prince gave away his Planet Earth album with The Mail on Sunday in 2007 – Ed*]. But the way the music industry is now, you've got to take big chances. Your plan of attack has to be completely different because the conventions of old don't apply any more. It's a real gratifying feeling that people will finally get to hear the album. It's been sitting on my hard drive and I didn't quite know what to do with it. It just struck me one day: 'I'm going to give this away…'"

AND WHY DID YOU CHOOSE KERRANG! IN PARTICULAR?

"We're old friends. We have a really good rapport, I respect the magazine a great deal. You guys were one of the few magazines that we let into the bubble of my previous band. We were a little less guarded around you guys. And Kerrang!'s always done me solid. We have such an amazing relationship. When times were great, you had my back, and when times weren't so great, you had my back. That's really telling of a group of people – if they're with you when times are tough. Did K! help MCR's career? Yes, it was a really gigantic piece of the puzzle. We had some great

Mikey Way's audition for The Simpsons was going well

breakthroughs and articles that I'll always remember with Kerrang!."

OBVIOUSLY, NOT EVERYONE WHO READS KERRANG! IS AN MCR/EC FAN. WHAT DO YOU THINK, SAY, DEATH METAL FANS WILL THINK OF IT?

"It's going to get in front of a lot of people, including people who wouldn't necessarily listen to this genre or who weren't fans of what I've done before. It's a nice little curveball. Hopefully it's something exciting. Not only do you get a great magazine, but you get an album and you can formulate your own opinion from it."

DO YOU THINK YOU'LL REACH A WIDER AUDIENCE THIS WAY THAN THROUGH A TRADITIONAL RELEASE?

"Yes. I feel the UK is going to completely understand this album. It screams to the UK. New Order and Depeche Mode were probably my two biggest inspirations – I always wanted to make an album like that. It reminds me of when I was a kid and all my favourite albums, they didn't necessarily release them in American stores, and we had to go into Manhattan and pay import prices for these British albums that were probably never going to come out in America. That's the flavour of what I was going for on this album."

YOU'VE BEEN HANGING OUT AND WORKING WITH LOTS OF OTHER BANDS. ARE ANY OF THEM ON YOUR RECORD?

"At one point, I had a lot of people that were going to pop on [the album]. Like, do a song with this person, do a song with that person. But it got more encapsulated in a bubble when it was me, Dave and Dan [Goodwin, producer]. There was a point where other people were going to make cameos, but then I was like, 'I want this one to be just from us.'"

ARE YOU READY TO TOUR AGAIN?

"We definitely want to play live. I feel like I'm ready to deal with the rigours of touring and be sober. We're going through the logistics right now. We're seeing how we want to do it – are we going to do it just me and Dave, or do it with a full band? We're on the drawing board right now for that. But you'll absolutely see us live."

AND THEN WHAT ARE THE FUTURE PLANS FOR ELECTRIC CENTURY?

"We have a whole other record ready to go. The next one will come sooner, I'm sure."

AND WILL YOU GIVE THAT ONE AWAY WITH KERRANG!, AS WELL?

"(*Laughs*) We'll see how it goes! I'm certainly not opposed to it…"

Pick up Kerrang! on March 9 to get *Electric Century*'s album!

"DID K! HELP MCR? YES, IT WAS GIGANTIC!"

MIKEY WAY

HOW TO GET THE ELECTRIC CENTURY ALBUM!

1. PICK UP KERRANG! OUT MARCH 9
2. RIP OPEN THE PLASTIC PACKAGING
3. STICK IT IN YOUR CD PLAYER AND ENJOY!

THE F
THIS WEE

Lonely The Brave: dropped your Topman store card, lads

LONELY THE BRAVE MATTER

THE CAMBRIDGE ROCKERS REVEAL THE DETAILS OF THEIR MUCH-ANTICIPATED NEW ALBUM, AND TELL US HOW THE STRUGGLE OF THE PAST 18 MONTHS SHAPED IT, EXCLUSIVELY IN **KERRANG!**...

CAMBRIDGE ROCKERS Lonely The Brave blew everyone away with feels when they released their debut album, The Day's War, in 2014, and now Kerrang! can exclusively announce the details of a follow-up! The **12-track** release is titled **Things Will Matter**, and it's due out on **May 20**, with the first single being called **Black Mire**. We caught up with guitarist Mark Trotter to get the lowdown...

HI, MARK, DID YOU KNOW HOW YOU WANTED THE ALBUM TO SOUND WHEN YOU WENT INTO IT?

"We went quite to the wire with this one. We've had so much happen to us over the last couple of years as a band, both good and bad, and the last 18 months have been pretty hard for us, if I'm being honest, so that's definitely affected the record and the sound of it. I think that's the way it should be. We didn't really have a plan of how it was supposed to be, they're all songs about things that have happened to us over the last couple of years. The last year has definitely shaped it very dramatically. What things? The music industry is an interesting place to kind of 'frequent'. It's always a bit of a minefield and something we don't always enjoy. We just want to play live and make music."

TELL US THE MEANING BEHIND THE TITLE...

"It's because we write about the things that happen to us, all of those things that shape you as a person. That's what we're trying to say, that all of those experiences you've had since day one, they are the things that shape you, they *matter*."

WHERE DID YOU RECORD IT AND WHO WITH?

"We recorded in Sheffield with Ross Orton, who's done Arctic Monkeys and bands like that before. I think we all had at least one song where we had a mini-meltdown each, but that's good, because we were striving for the best we could be. There's things that at some point are going to wind you up in life and you just scream some expletives at the sky for 10 minutes and you're fine after that!"

FINALLY, WHY IS BLACK MIRE THE FIRST SINGLE?

"It shows the intent of where we're going as a band. It has the vibe that quite a lot of the rest of the record has, which is kind of darker and a bit more intense than people are used to from us. It's just a big, crushing song, and it's a riff that's been around for a while. It's a statement of intent, that's the way I look at it."

THINGS WILL MATTER IS DUE OUT MAY 20

WORDS: DAN SLESSOR

SLAM DUNK ANNOUNCE MORE BANDS

AS IF THE LINE-UP WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH ALREADY, THEY'VE NOW GOT EVEN MORE KILLER ACTS TO ADD TO THE LIST...

WORDS: DAN SLESSOR

KERRANG! CAN exclusively reveal that **The King Blues**, **Shikari Sound System** (DJ set), **Moose Blood**, **Gnarwolves**, **The Amity Affliction**, **The Word Alive**, **Chunk! No, Captain Chunk!** and **Catch 22** will all be playing this year's Slam Dunk. We talked to Itch from The King Blues to get you excited...

HEY, ITCH! WHAT ARE YOUR MEMORIES OF SLAM DUNK?

"I was there, solo, a couple of years back, and it was one hell of a party!"

WILL THIS BE THE FIRST FESTIVAL TKB HAVE PLAYED SINCE REFORMING?

"Actually... it is! And that's dope, what a brilliant way to kick off the summer."

WHAT SHOULD PEOPLE COMING ALONG EXPECT FROM YOU?

"We like to try to bring people together through the power of punk rock, to believe in themselves and to overthrow the government through songs of love and rebellion. We like to create an atmosphere where everybody is welcome."

FOR MORE DETAILS ON SLAM DUNK SEE THE GIG GUIDE

THEY SAID WHAT?

"I AM PRONOUNCING MYSELF KING OF DAD JOKE WORLD"

DAVYD WINTER-BATES, BURY TOMORROW

EAGLES OF DEATH METAL RETURN TO PARIS

BATACLAN SURVIVOR **LYDIA VASSALLO** TALKS US THROUGH **EODM**'S EMOTIONAL COMEBACK SHOW

ON FEBRUARY 13, just three months after an Eagles Of Death Metal show became the target of a terrorist attack – when three gunmen opened fire mid-show, killing 89 people in the crowd – the LA rockers returned to play Paris' Olympia venue.

Paris resident Lydia Vassallo was one of the 900 or so survivors who were invited to attend the show for free, and understandably she had her reservations entering the Olympia.

"I was scared it would happen again," she told Kerrang!. "But I just thought, 'I don't want my life to be controlled by fear – I'm gonna do it.'"

"You could feel the tension because everyone had waited for the gig for so long," says Lydia of the moments before Jesse Hughes and co came onstage. "When they did, it was an explosion of joy!" She also describes the 89 seconds of silence the frontman held as "emotional".

"I didn't expect them to do something," she says of the tribute. "I was thinking of those who couldn't be there that night. It's a shame, they should have been there… they should. So, the 89 seconds were important."

While Lydia was lucky enough not to have suffered any post-traumatic stress symptoms from the attack, or flashbacks at the show – her friend who was shot in the attack felt "too scared" to attend, and many gig-goers sought reassurance from the on-site psychologist before the show's encore – she was overcome with emotion when the Eagles Of Death Metal left the stage.

"I just felt relieved! I remember thinking, 'Fuck! It's over… I survived,'" she remembers. "It was important to feel alive again, because since the attacks, we felt dead, even though we survived, because we were thinking, 'We are gonna die, it's over.' And after finishing that gig, suddenly we feel alive again. I started crying, and cried for two days after that."

> "AFTER THE GIG, WE FEEL ALIVE AGAIN…"
> LYDIA VASSALLO

Lydia (right) with Jesse

Jesse Hughes at the Paris show on February 13

WORDS: GETTY

SOME KIND OF LECTURE

Metallica's **Lars Ulrich** is hosting a talk at the University of California on **March 2** called **Front Row With Lars Ulrich And Friends**. Said friends speaking at the event include his bandmate **James Hetfield**, **Green Day**'s **Billie Joe Armstrong**, **Primus**' **Les Claypool** and even **Lars**' dad, **Torben**. They'll be talking about why creative people choose to live in the Bay Area of California. Probably a lecture you can get away with using your phone at if you're not from America, or in a band.

Lars isn't buying the 'dog ate my homework' line

DON'T SPEAK (TO ME)

No Doubt frontlady **Gwen Stefani** found out members of her band were starting a new band with **AFI**'s **Davey Havok** through, um, the internet. "They're doing a side-project, they want to be in a punk band. It's not No Doubt, all the guys from No Doubt are doing a new band," she told American TV host **Jimmy Kimmel**. While rumour has it her band members and Davey have already recorded a full album, they're yet to come up with a title for their new project. Sounds like they've got some excuses to think up first…

LIGHTS, CAMERA, AUSTIN

Of Mice & Men have released a five-part documentary series titled **The Full Circle Story**. The films follow the band over the two years following the release of their third album, **Restoring Force**, and can be watched online – visit Ofmiceandmenofficial.com for details. Next week, **Austin Carlile** pitches to be the next James Bond… maybe.

GHOST GET A GRAMMY!

At last week's Grammy Awards, occult rockers **Ghost** walked away with the gong for Best Metal Performance, for the song **Cirice** from their 2015 album, **Meliora**. In an extremely rare speech from **Papa Emeritus III**, he said: "A nightmare has just turned into a dream. So, thank you for that… thank you for voting. Now go party." Elsewhere at the Grammys, **Muse** won Best Rock Album for 2015's **Drones**, and **Hollywood Vampires** (ft. **Alice Cooper**, **Johnny Depp**, **Duff McKagan**, **Matt Sorum** and **Joe Perry**) paid tribute to **Lemmy**, with a killer rendition of **Motörhead**'s **Ace Of Spades**.

THEY SAID WHAT?

"CHECK TWITTER. CHECK INSTAGRAM. REPEAT. REPEAT AGAIN. AGAIN. STILL YET AGAIN. ON AND ON INTO INFINITY."

MARK HOPPUS, BLINK-182

ROCK GOES TO HOLLYW

WITH THE OSCARS THIS WEEKEND, **SUICIDE SQUAD** OUT IN AUGUST AND **MUCH MORE ROCK** COMING TO THE CINEMA, WHO BETTER TO LEAD US INTO THIS ROUND-UP THAN ACTOR AND ROCKSTAR, **COUNTERFEIT**'S **JAMIE CAMPBELL BOWER**…

Jamie played a very convincing Jamie Campbell Bower

WE FIRST saw his name in the credits of films like Twilight, Harry Potter and Sweeney Todd, but these days Jamie Campbell Bower is becoming just as well-known for fronting punk band Counterfeit. After the release of first single Come Get Some last September, plus a raucous live debut at London's O2 Academy Islington, the singer more than proved he's not just acting at being a rockstar. So, here he is to tell us about how rocking out and acting out go hand in hand…

FIRST UP, WHO'S THE MOST FAMOUS ACTOR YOU'VE HUNG OUT WITH?

"Hung out with? (*Laughs*) You want me to name drop? I've been lucky enough to work with a lot of people who are relatively famous – my first movie was one with Johnny Depp [2008's Sweeney Todd], so that was pretty cool, and I had just turned 18. But when it comes to hanging out, I generally keep to myself when I'm not at work."

WHAT'S YOUR DREAM MOVIE ROLE?

"I'd like to do biopics, and I'd *love* to play Iggy Pop. I'd like to play him in any capacity, it would be amazing, and it would just be fun. He's a great character to play, he's obviously awesome, and in the early stages of his life there was kind of that madness there. I think whenever you do something like a biopic, you have to do as much research as you can, whether the person is alive or dead, and it's somewhat easier if they're alive because you get to talk to them and hang out with them and learn their mannerisms. Would I be investing a lot of me, though? Well, I generally play shirtless anyway, so that's not an issue (*laughs*)!"

ARE THERE TRANSFERABLE SKILLS BETWEEN BEING AN ACTOR AND BEING A ROCKSTAR?

"You have to be comfortable performing in front of other people. You have to throw yourself into it, and I've particularly found, with the band, I take on this enraged madman persona when I'm onstage, even though what I'm singing about is something that's so personal. I guess you have to feel comfortable being in front of other people – and potentially making a dick out of yourself! You've got to do your own thing, and think like you're performing in the shower, I guess. The skill is to pretend you're performing in the shower no matter if you're in a rock band or in front of a camera (*laughs*)!"

AND HAVE YOU ACTUALLY FILMED A SHOWER SCENE YET?

"That makes it sound like I've been doing sexy work (*laughs*)! I've been on a beach, not a warm beach, a cold one in the Irish sea – that's as close as I've gotten!"

IS IT QUITE EASY TO COEXIST IN BOTH

ROCK ON THE BIG SCREEN IN 2016

WE TAKE A LOOK AT THE STARS DUE TO HIT YOUR LOCAL CINEMA…

LOVE FILM

Courtney Love is due to appear in James Franco movie The Long Home, based on the William Gay novel and set to hit cinemas in 2017. Set in 1940s Tennessee, the plot sees a young carpenter (played by Josh Hutcherson of Hunger Games fame) hired by Dallas Hardin (James Franco), the guy who killed his dad 10 years before. The Hole frontlady plays the wife of said douchebag.

WAKE ME UP WHEN THE TRAILERS END

Green Day frontman Billie Joe Armstrong has made two movies, both of which are yet to see a UK release. There's Like Sunday, Like Rain, which sees him play a "disloyal musician boyfriend" of Gossip Girl Leighton Meester, and Geezer, a comedy-drama where BJ plays a former punk-rocker 10 years into his band's indefinite hiatus. We definitely won't be streaming these illegally.

WHO YOU GONNA CALL? OZZY OSBOURNE!

Ozzy was on the set of the new Ghostbusters movie last August, and according to the Boston Herald, he was "the headliner at the heavy metal concert scene". Will some spooky chaps crash Ozzy's show? Would Ozzy even need the Ghostbusters to fend them off? Ghostbusters is scheduled to hit cinemas July 15.

ROLES AT THE MOMENT?

"Yeah. I think if you love both enough and want to make them both work. We go on tour in a month from now, but between now and then I'm shooting, and as soon as I come back I go off and shoot something else, and then go out on another tour. I love that, I love the madness of it, and I think if you really work hard at it, you can make both work."

WHAT STRUGGLES HAVE YOU COME UP AGAINST TRYING TO START YOUR MUSIC CAREER AFTER WORKING AS A SUCCESSFUL ACTOR?

"It's very much like 'actor boy starts band'. From outside perspectives you hear, 'Oh, it's this kid who's done whatever movies and wants to play rock'n'roll, now he's dipping his toe in rock'n'roll.' That's not true, because I was playing drums in shitty venues for an indie band when I was 15 or 16 years old. I've always, always, always been championing artists that I like and going to shows and whatnot. The challenge that we face as a band, and I face personally, is this idea of, 'Oh, he's got a bit of money and he's going to do his own thing.' That's just not true. I've got to work *three times* as hard in this as somebody who just wants to start a band because they want to be a musician. I've *always* wanted to be a musician *and* an actor."

DO YOU KNOW OF ANY OTHER MOVIE STARS THAT ARE FRUSTRATED ROCKSTARS?

"Are you calling me a frustrated rockstar (*laughs*)!? Well, there's loads of movie stars who play in bands – Ryan Gosling has a band, obviously there's Jared Leto, Johnny's got Hollywood Vampires now. There's loads, and again it sounds really wanky and up its own arse, but I think anybody who wants to be an artist has to release themselves in any form of creativity, and if you can play an instrument, then more power to you."

HAVE YOU BEEN TO THE OSCARS?

"I've never been! No! It's a crying shame that I haven't even received a nomination yet! Quite frankly, I think it's ridiculous (*laughs*)! I've done the BAFTAs, though, and that was amazing fun. I've presented there a few times. I've been to a few afterparties in my time (*laughs*)! They're really fun as well, and the thing is, generally awards ceremonies go on so long that by the time the afterparty starts, it's quite late, so everyone's pretty knackered. There's tasty snacks, though, I'll tell you that much – they do a mean canapé!"

"I COULDN'T CHOOSE BETWEEN ACTING AND MUSIC!"

JAMIE CAMPBELL BOWER

WHAT'S MORE ROCK'N'ROLL? THE K! AWARDS, OR THE BAFTAS?

"Oh fuck, the Kerrang! Awards, of course! Come on! I've not actually done them yet, but I'd *love* to go, and I bloody well hope I get to this year (*laughs*)!"

COUNTERFEIT PLAY IN APRIL. SEE THE GIG GUIDE FOR DETAILS

INTERVIEW: DAN SLESSOR

5 REASONS WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE SUICIDE SQUAD

1 THE SOUNDTRACK

Superhero movies are usually *always* accompanied by a rockstar-studded soundtrack, and since the Suicide Squad trailer featured a weirded-up version of Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody, we expect this one will be no exception. Get in our ears immediately.

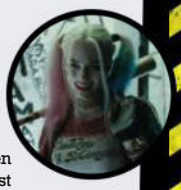
2 SLIPKNOT

Corey Taylor and co aren't making an appearance, it's just a supervillain known for his prowess with ropes (played by Law & Order actor Adam Beach). Would have been better with the actual Slipknot, but who are we to cast a movie…

3 NEW LEVELS OF FUCKED-UP

The movie is so dark, director David Ayer brought a therapist on-set to ensure his actors didn't take their torment home. Probably wasn't required by Joker Jared Leto, who sent his onscreen love interest, Margot Robbie – who plays Harley Quinn – a love note accompanied by a live rat to get himself into character. Lucky lady.

4 HARLEY QUINN



Harley Quinn's the most rock'n'roll comic book antihero there is – as Ash Costello proves by dressing up as her on the regular. "She's creepy, violent, crazy: all of the things that I aspire to be," Margot Robbie said of her character when speaking to the Independent. Can she just come to life and start a band now, please?

5 JARED LETO

Obviously. From the second we got that first glimpse of that toxic green hair, we've been fervently marking dates off on our calendar. Everybody thought Heath Ledger's portrayal of the Joker was untoppable, but we reckon Jared might just manage it.

SUICIDE SQUAD IS OUT IN AUGUST

SWEET DREAMS (ARE NOT MADE OF THIS)

As well as playing a murderous barber in TV show Salem, Marilyn Manson has a movie on the way this year. Let Me Make You A Martyr is a crime movie about an abusive father, and sees Manson play a Native American hitman. In the trailer for it, the God Of Fuck looks creepy as fuck, so we're just a little bit excited/freaked out.

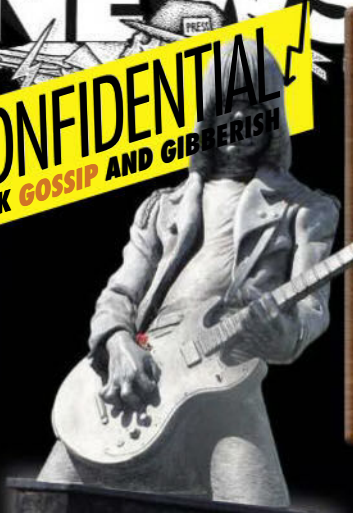
CINEMA MOSH

Gutterdämmerung, describes itself as a "dark and loud" fairytale, and features appearances from Lemmy, Iggy Pop, Josh Homme and Jesse Hughes, Slash, Mark Lanegan, Tom Araya, Henry Rollins and more! Following the tradition of 1920s Hollywood, the film is mostly silent, but with a live rock band playing in the cinema to express emotions. Not got your earplugs? Then just shove some popcorn in there. Should do the trick.

K!ONFIDENTIAL
ROCK GOSSIP AND GIBBERISH

—STANDING LIKE— STATUES

WITH A STATUE OF LEMMY CURRENTLY IN THE WORKS, WE LOOK AT SOME OTHER ROCKERS WHO'VE BEEN IMMORTALISED IN ACTUAL ROCK AND METAL...



JOHNNY RAMONE
1948 – 2004

Johnny Ramone paid for this statue himself before sadly passing away with prostate cancer in 2004. According to former Ramones drummer Tommy Ramone, the guitarist saw it "as something for the fans to come see". Very nice it is, too, setting him back just $100,000.
FIND IT: At the Hollywood Forever Cemetery in California.

AFTER A crowdfunder set up to fund a statue of the late, great Lemmy Kilmister hit well over its target of $21,000 (raising $22,106 at the time of going to print), work is well under way.

The statue will proudly stand outside the Motörhead frontman's favourite haunt, the Rainbow Bar & Grill in Los Angeles – where his memorial service was held – and is being made by sculptor Travis Moore.

After putting his name in the hat for the project, Travis met with the owners of the Rainbow and showed them his sketches for the proposed bronze statue. Turns out they were into it, so he's currently working on an 18-inch maquette (below). Once finished, that will be converted into a lifesize sculpture, which will be moulded in wax and then poured and cast in bronze.

It's estimated the statue will take a maximum of six months to create and Travis has promised to "do his best to make Lemmy proud". To tide you over in the mean time, we've picked out the best rock memorials from all over the world...

Lemmy is currently 18 inches tall and made of tin foil

JIMI HENDRIX
1942 – 1970

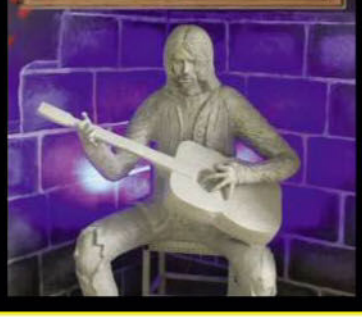
This permanently knee-sliding Jimi Hendrix was unveiled in January 1997 amid a veil of "purple haze" (coloured smoke). According to locals, it's not unusual to find a half-burnt cigarette stuck between his lips. Someone's gonna need to help him light that...
FIND IT: On Capitol Hill near downtown Seattle.

PHIL LYNOTT
1949 – 1986

Erected in 2005, this lifesize statue of Phil Lynott was sculpted by Paul Daly. The locals have nicknamed it 'The Ace With The Bass'.
FIND IT: Harry Street, Dublin.

KURT COBAIN
1967 – 1994

Randi Hubbard started this concrete statue when Kurt died. It's shedding a single tear because it took so long to make.
FIND IT: Aberdeen Museum Of History, Washington.



BON SCOTT
1946 – 1980

Bon Scott has two statues – this one in an Aussie harbour, and another in his home town of Kirriemuir, Scotland. We know which statue we'd rather be.
FIND IT: Fremantle, Australia.

FREDDIE MERCURY
1946 – 1991

This statue is twinned with a less permanent one that was displayed out front of We Will Rock You at the Dominion Theatre. It now resides in Roger Taylor's garden.
FIND IT: Lake Geneva, Montreux.

PANDORA BY RAY ZELL Rayzell.com

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THE STORY SO FAR

THE KING BLUES

THE STARTING LINE

EVERY TIME I DIE

CANCER BATS

FOUR YEAR STRONG

SET YOUR GOALS

ASKING ALEXANDRIA

MEMPHIS MAY FIRE

THE AMITY AFFLICTION

NORTHLANE

MOOSE BLOOD

zebrahead

CAPDOWN

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REAL FRIENDS

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THE OFFICIAL KERRANG! ROCK CHART

TWENTY ONE PILOTS HAVE NOTHING TO BE STRESSED OUT ABOUT. THEY'VE KEPT THE THE LIKES OF **ENTER SHIKARI** AND **CREEPER** OFF THE TOP SPOT. OOSH!

	WEEKS ON CHART	HIGHEST POSITION	ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL
1	3	1	TWENTY ONE PILOTS	Stressed Out	FUELED BY RAMEN
2	5	1	ENTER SHIKARI	Redshift	AMBUSH REALITY
3	2	3	CREEPER	Black Mass	ROADRUNNER
4	4	2	TONIGHT ALIVE	How Does It Feel?	SONY
5	3	5	SHINEDOWN	State Of My Head	ATLANTIC
6	1	6	FALLING IN REVERSE	Chemical Prisoner	EPITAPH
7	12	2	PANIC! AT THE DISCO	Victorious	FUELED BY RAMEN
8	4	8	KILLSWITCH ENGAGE	Strength Of The Mind	ROADRUNNER
9	5	9	HALESTORM	I Am The Fire	ATLANTIC
10	3	10	LIKE A STORM	Become The Enemy	ANOTHER CENTURY
11	2	11	REIGNING DAYS	Renegade	ECCO RECORDINGS
12	1	12	MILK TEETH	Brain Food	UNSIGNED
13	9	8	DON BROCO	Nerve	SONY
14	4	14	GRUMBLE BEE	Sky Writer	SELF-RELEASE
15	14	1	PANIC! AT THE DISCO	Emperor's New Clothes	FUELED BY RAMEN
16	7	16	BLACK PEAKS	Saviour	SONY RED
17	9	6	THE QEMISTS	Run You	AMAZING RECORD CO
18	13	18	BEAUTIFUL BODIES	Capture & Release	EPITAPH
19	3	1	VUKOVI	Bouncy Castle	LAB RECORDS
20	3	20	BOY JUMPS SHIP	Burn	AMAZING RECORD CO

ROB DAMIANI, DON BROCO

YOU'VE JUST RELEASED NERVE AS A LIVE VIDEO – WHY CHOOSE THAT SONG?
"I think for us, to be fair, it was the highlight of the whole show. We played it last in the set, so there was a bit of excitement for us, having that epic moment right at the end. There was something about the video from Nerve that was such a stand-out moment from the whole set, it just summed up the whole show for us. The reaction has been incredible."

WHAT MAKES IT SUCH A GREAT SHOW-ENDER?
"The uplifting nature in the last chorus, it's a very emotional song for us. It's a song where you can put your arms around your mates, sing along and leave on a high."

WERE YOU NERVOUS BEFORE RELEASING IT AS A SINGLE?
"I don't think we were, really – the first time we heard the finished song in the studio, our producer, Jason Perry, had an actual tear in his eye – he was really taken aback by it and so were we."

DAN STEER, REIGNING DAYS

HEY, DAN, WHAT IS RENEGADE ABOUT?
"Renegade is comparing being in a shit relationship and the similarities of being in a warzone!"

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE LYRIC AND WHY?
"I think the opening line, *'I'll take one shot, you play my God and I'll lay you down, holding the fear'*. It sums up the entire song. It's pretty dark."

FINALLY, WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT PERFORMING THE SONG LIVE?
"It's just balls-out and we always play it fucking hard. It's usually last, and we get to go mental."

SEE/HEAR THE OFFICIAL KERRANG! ROCK CHART!

KERRANG! TV
KERRANG! RADIO

The Official Kerrang! Rock Chart is made up of airplay across Kerrang! Radio, Kerrang! TV and specialist rock stations. The show airs on K! Radio every Saturday at 10am and also on K! TV Thursdays at 4pm. Tune in and listen up!

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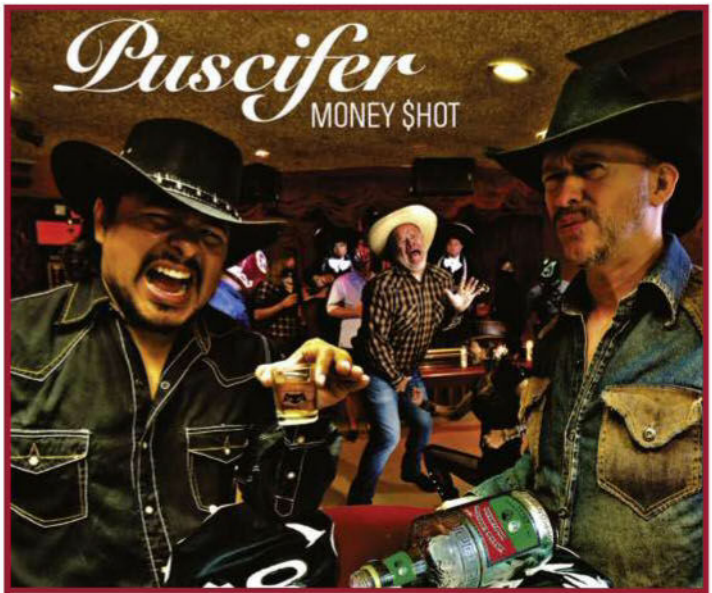
27.02: KASBAH, COVENTRY
29.02: MARRS BAR, WORCESTER
01.03: THE BOILEROOM, GUILDFORD
02.03: MOLES, BATH
03.03: THE UNDERWORLD, LONDON SOLD OUT
04.03: FORUM, TUNBRIDGE WELLS



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05/03/16 - London, Borderline
06/03/16 - Nottingham, Rock City

FRESH BLOOD
ROCK'S BREAKING BANDS

GRUMBLE BEE

MEET THE MUSICAL WHIZZ KID SET TO WIN YOUR HEART

WORDS: EMILY CARTER PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

THAT'S A LOT OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS THERE… CAN THIS GUY PLAY THEM ALL?

Probably, yeah. This is Jack Bennett, AKA Grumble Bee, and he's pretty damn talented when it comes to music. The songwriter – formerly frontman of defunct UK trio PaperPlane – not only sings, but he also plays guitar, drums, bass, strings, piano and organ on his brilliant five-track debut EP, Disconnect. "I can't play all the instruments I try to very well – but I'm far too stubborn to give up practising on that instrument until it's right!" he admits. Jack's being modest, of course – he's a total pro.

BET HE CAN'T PLAY THE KAZOO. ANYWAY, WHAT'S THE END RESULT LIKE?

Influenced by the likes of City And Colour, Brand New and Thrice, the 23-year-old's brand of impassioned alt.rock comes straight from the heart – but it's nothing too heavy. After living in a nursery – his mum runs a nursery out of her house – until he was 18, Jack grew up surrounded by animals, animation and gaming (and still loves all those things), and the good vibes flow into his work. "I don't try to write serious songs at all, though I do love

"PEOPLE APPRECIATE PASSION"

the Disconnect EP, I'm literally writing about attempting to break up all sorts of relationships with different people – basically just a mass disassociation." Specifically, the EP's sprawling lead single, Sky Writer, tackles Jack's change from band to going solo.

WHAT HAPPENED TO PAPERPLANE? IT'S LIKE THEY JUST FLEW AWAY…

Sorry, folks, there's no juicy story about bitter punch-ups here. They simply decided to call it a day, and the band's old bassist, Kristian Arak, went on to study a degree in medicine, while ex-drummer Callum Connell still plays with Jack live in Grumble Bee. After being together as a three-piece for over six years, everything's fallen into place for Jack to get serious about his own project. "Grumble Bee was never meant to be a 'thing' other than just an outlet to promote my musical ideas," he explains.

CAN WE EXPERIENCE THAT OUTLET LIVE ANY TIME SOON?

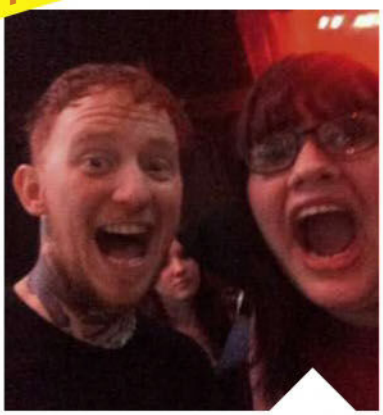
Jack's heading out on the road with Rhode Island rockers The Dear Hunter soon, and he's planning on winning people over. "I try to keep my live show as honest and raw as possible," acknowledges Jack. "I think people appreciate it when there's believability and passion behind a performance, or at least that's what I'd be looking for if I was at a gig! So, that's all I'm trying to do." Trust us, you'd best Bee there to see him. You'll have absolutely nothing to Grumble about [*you're fired – K! Pun Ed*].

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

FOR FANS OF: Biffy Clyro, Deaf Havana, City And Colour.
HEAR: Debut EP Disconnect, out February 26.
MORE INFO: Facebook.com/GrumbleBeeUK
CHECK OUT: The epic, moody video for Sky Writer, available on YouTube.
DON'T MISS: Grumble Bee and more awesome new bands on Alex Baker's Fresh Blood show on Wednesdays at 10pm on K! Radio.

K!OMMUNITY

IT'S YOUR PAGE, YOUR LIFE!



HUGGERNAUT

"Just a casual meeting with @frankcarter23 after he hugged me at the Kerrang! Tour," says ***@ALayToRemember****. Frank? Hugging? We think you've got the wrong guy, to be honest.*

WITH GREAT PAPER COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY

"While making another project, I ended up recycling the mag to create the Kerrangatron," says ***@whutareudoing****, revealing the Avengers' secret weapon against all that is evil in the world, AKA Justin Bieber.*

THE FANTHEM

"Met the Madden Brothers in London, left me speechless!" ***@frodoalice*** *tells us. Matching puffa jackets: a Madden Brother necessity.*

WINNER!

BARRICADE SERENADE

"JACK GOT OFF THE STAGE IN BIRMINGHAM TO TAKE THIS WITH ME!" SHOUTS ***@ANABELLXOX****. THIS IS NO ALL TIME LOW! YOU'VE JUST WON TICKETS TO SEE SLEEPING WITH SIRENS AND SOME SIGNED MERCH! CAN WE STOP SHOUTING NOW, PLEASE?*

WISHFUL PICKING

"When I told Ben to pull a 'silly face'," says ***@Chloezzy****. WOW, his fingers are Nose Deep! Come back next week to find out what Ben Barlow found up there. Please be the new Metallica album. Please be the new Metallica album. Please be the new…*

SUMONE FAMOUS

"Deryck from Sum 41!" says ***@QueenOfDarlia****. We bet he was all like, 'Oh my God, it's the Queen of Darlia!' Kudos for staying stood up on that incredibly slanted pavement, though. On a side note, wanna see how Sum 41 fared on the Kerrang! Tour 2016? Head to page 44 now. Like, right now.*

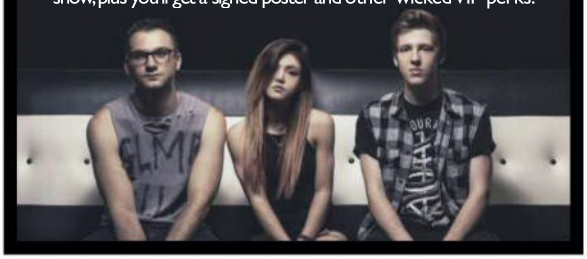
LINES LIKE THESE

"New piece done #DaveGrohl," says ***@AdeleCraske****. Old #DaveGrohl looks deep in concentration, Adele. We know that look well: "Hmmm, pizza or chocolate for lunch?"*

NEXT WEEK

WIN! THE ULTIMATE AGAINST THE CURRENT VIP EXPERIENCE!

Bumped into Ash Costello in a Haunted Mansion recently? Helped All Time Low toilet-paper a house? If you've got proof, we want to see – share your pics with us, using #Kommunity. The best will win two tickets to see ATC play London's KOKO on March 21 – with a twist: you'll also get to meet the band, who will perform a special acoustic set before the show, plus you'll get a signed poster and other wicked VIP perks!



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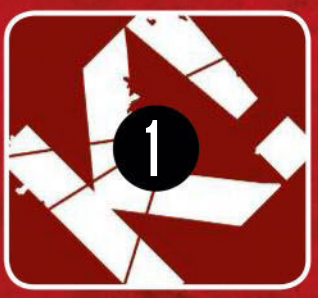

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COVER STORY

FEAR and LOATHING in LOS ANGEL

AHEAD OF **SLEEPING WITH SIRENS**' UK RETURN, K!'S HANNAH EWENS HEADED TO LA IN SEARCH OF THE *REAL* **KELLIN QUINN**. OVER 48 HEAD-SPINNING HOURS, IT DIDN'T QUITE GO TO PLAN…

PHOTOS: LINDSEY BYRNES

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS

LS

Kellin Quinn has locked himself behind a hotel room door. Kerrang! waits in the parking lot by the old convertible we've rented for the weekend while someone from his label tries in vain to coax him out. It's late afternoon of the second day of our scheduled 48 hours in the company of the Sleeping With Sirens frontman in a bid to get to know the real him, and worryingly it looks like it's prematurely over. Kellin has had enough. Not that this should've come as a surprise. Since Kellin greeted Kerrang! in Los Angeles, he's been aloof and distant, keeping things business and evading our planned interview whenever the subject arises.

And that is the curious thing about the man behind the door. For the face of a band that've been the apple of fans' eyes at least since their second album in 2011, no-one knows very much at all about Kellin Quinn. What he's like. How he thinks. What motivates him. *Who he really is.* Fans numbering 1.5m Instagram followers and 1.35m on Twitter hang on his every selfie and emoji-filled caption, but they'd do well to piece much more together than a surface-level picture-perfect life. A Google search will unearth few interviews of value in terms of adding colour to the character behind the frontman façade.

It doesn't even take Kellin to lock himself in a hotel room for us to find out why.

"Most interviewers aren't actually very good at interviewing," Kellin earlier tells us, squinting, looking ahead. "If you ask me a good question, maybe I'll answer. Ask me something interesting, then fine."

We're sat outside a tiny Mexican restaurant waiting for burritos and, in the interim, the big question has arisen: Why doesn't the world know Kellin Quinn? The frontman curls his hair around his fingers, and checks it in his iPhone screen, which he does habitually. "I've been in this band a long time now and I don't feel like I have to play the game any more," he begins. "When you first start out in music, you have to answer all the questions. I can just be real, you know?" He references Bob Dylan, who is famously dry in interviews, cutting down a journalist with a look or straight comment ("He's such an asshole and doesn't apologise for it"). "I don't mind doing press," he finishes bluntly. "I just don't let people in unless I want to."

The same goes for hotel rooms, clearly.

The first morning of our LA weekend and Amoeba Records' famous doors are thrown open for the day, pulling in music fans from across the city – and, eventually, a hungover Kellin Quinn. Last night was a heavy one; partying with Issues' mainman Tyler Carter, Telle Smith from The Word Alive and other creatures of the LA night welcomed their friend back to town with a bang. "The best thing about coming here is that I'll just put up on Twitter, 'Hey, I'm in LA!' and everyone will start hitting me up, wanting to hang," Kellin smiles. "I have so many friends here, it's crazy."

In a blazer jacket and smart shoes, you wouldn't

have known Kellin had been knocking drinks back until 4am. Straight away, a girl comes over with a record in one hand and an awkward hello in the other. Kellin politely agrees to a picture and a smile.

Strolling through the aisles, Kellin recounts his love affair with music. "My grandma would drive around in her Beetle and play old records to me: The Rolling Stones, The Beatles… She introduced me to all those classic bands," he recalls. "When I played [infamous LA rock haunt] the Whisky, she told me she saw Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin play there." By his teen years, it was all about emo, punk and Drive-Thru. In Kellin's case, he discovered bands through compilation CDs.

It doesn't take long fingering through records by the greats to bring up Kellin's own expanding vision. He sees his place now as one in the wider industry, not just as Sleeping With Sirens' vocalist. For one, he's started his own, as-yet-unnamed label. "I want to not be like other labels who will just fuck you over and give you a shitty deal," he explains. "That's exciting to me. I wanna find a young band, not sign a *known* band."

First to get the Kellin Quinn treatment is a young Canadian pop-punk band, Chase Your Words. "I'm paying out of my own pocket for everything," says Kellin. "I wanted to find a band that is more edgy because the press keeps talking about how these pop-rock bands are saving rock'n'roll and that's not fucking true."

Tonight, Chase Your Words are flying into LA for their first taste of the business – making a music video, meeting producers and hanging out with their mentor.

After only a few hours with Kellin, it becomes obvious he likes his plans fluid, to say the least. As a necessity, you need to work around him; to be flexible and go with the flow. As we're told, you can't gently coerce Kellin into doing anything he doesn't want to. At one point, the car we've hired to cover LA's vast ground breaks down, and he immediately wants to leave to get lunch while other people sort it out. They and anyone else in our party who wants to help can meet him there when they're done. He speaks his mind, too. Over the course of taxi rides and strolls down beige sidewalks, he talks about the successful bands he does and doesn't think are legitimately good; who has real talent and who is a product of hype. If he doesn't like something you say, he'll be quickly dismissive and shut it down, with a just-perceivable widening of the eyes, ready for the next topic. But when he does engage with something you've said, it feels like the sun has fully turned to beat on you, so gratifying is the feeling.

"I'm very transparent, I know," he says of this part of his personality. "Put it like this: I'm all about quality over quantity, and that comes down to people. If I didn't want to take a picture with a fan because I just woke up or I'm having a shitty day, I have that right. If you don't want to watch my concert because of that, that's yours. I'm not going to lose sleep over that. If I lost half of a fanbase because I didn't sign things or whatever, that's okay."

Come night, when muscles and jaws relax after a drink, Kellin finally opens up a fraction when discussing his favourite subject: LA – a stark contrast to his Oregon hometown the best part of 700 miles north. "I don't think of my hometown as home," Kellin says. "There's nothing about it that's inspiring. It's such a dead place. Car lots everywhere. Three or four pharmacies and fast food. I don't live here [in LA], but I've always felt like I should be here. I've travelled all over the world, but I feel like this place is home, you know? There's so much possibility."

LA enables the most visible part of Kellin's personality: Kellin the musician. Since visiting various family members here in holidays and over summers, it's where he's aspired to be. But just as we get really talking, he announces he's off. Apparently, a last-minute, top-secret meeting was arranged a day ago. He gets up and walks across the bar, leaving us sat alone among fairy lights and low-level chatter, a half-finished drink in our hand.

"I'VE BEEN IN THIS BAND A LONG TIME. I DON'T HAVE TO PLAY THE GAME ANY MORE. I DON'T LET PEOPLE IN UNLESS I WANT TO"
KELLIN QUINN

A blue-skied morning welcomes day two at Kellin's hotel and a fresh chance for another crack at the nut. We sit down with him at the poolside table for the first of two scheduled one-on-one interviews. But, immediately, he's not interested: he's on his phone texting and taking calls. He vaguely apologises and drops a couple of distracted words here and there in response to questions, but it's impossible to get his full attention. Suddenly, only five minutes in, a "Hey, hey!" is heard over the hotel fence. In bowl Good Charlotte's Benji Madden and big-time producer John Feldmann – who worked on Sleeping With Sirens' last album, 2015's Madness – all handshakes, white smiles and shining chains. Kellin sparks to life.

"You're skinny, dude!" Benji remarks, looking Kellin up and down. Kellin laughs: "When I go home, I eat healthy. Whatever my wife eats, I eat!" Benji turns to the whole group and explains his and John's arrival. "When Kellin calls, you come out. And the thing about LA is, when you get here, you just chill. We're married," he points to himself and Kellin. "When you're 21 in LA, it's different, but when you're married, it's a different version of LA."

Kellin nods. If anyone will back him as being a "good dude", it's Benji, who also believes in him as an artist. "You always notice in each class of musicians that come up there's a couple of bright young kids with a head on their shoulders, a lot of talent and great entrepreneurial spirit,"

THE SOUNDTRACK OF MY LIFE

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS

AFTER A MORNING'S SHOPPING IN AMOEBA RECORDS, KELLIN SHOWS US THE LIFE-CHANGING ALBUMS HE BOUGHT

AMY WINEHOUSE – BLACK TO BLACK (2006)

"My daughter makes me play Black To Black over and over and over again, and I always have to turn down the part where she says '*kept his dick wet*'. She knows the song off by heart but she'll always repeat it and I don't want my daughter running around saying that! If you ever read the lyrics, Amy just poured her heart into her music. She was real."

THE VELVET UNDERGROUND – LOADED (1970)

"My grandma had a record collection I found in her attic. This was one of the records I found in there, and I just fell in love with it. The cover is just so cool. Who Loves The Sun is sweet. Sweet Jane is so cool. It has clever songs on it. It was kinda the whole New York fucking punk-rock vibe. Lou Reed was one of the founders of punk. And obviously he got weirder when he got out of his band, but this is his most poppy one."

ANTI-FLAG – UNDERGROUND NETWORK (2001)

"The actual title-track I thought was one of the catchiest songs I'd ever heard when I heard it. I just liked that band because they always had something important to say. My friend showed me this record when I'd just bought Sum 41's first record, and said, 'Check this out.' I was skipping through and found that song and it just gets louder and louder and louder as it's coming in and it was just so heavy and angsty and then I didn't wanna listen to Sum 41 any more – I wanted something more angry!"

NIRVANA – LIVE AT READING (2009)

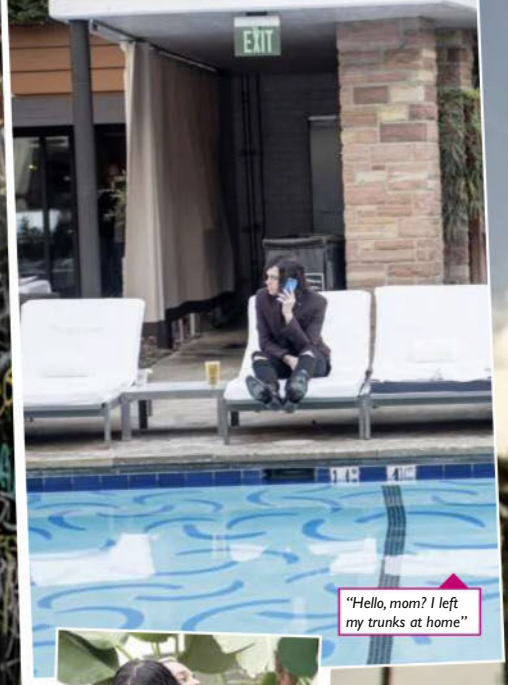
"Nirvana is Nirvana. They basically changed music. In the early '90s, instead of hair metal band it was this, and this is what started everything that we all do within the scene and it wouldn't have happened without that band. I got the live recordi because, honestly, I don't have it! I have all the album stuff. I think their live shit is so bad and good at the same time. It's so awesomely bad. His guitar sounds like shit and out of tune – it's fucking rock'n'roll."

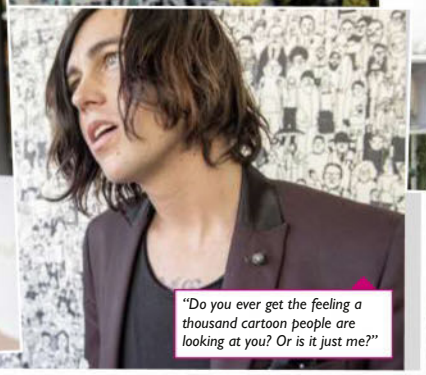
THE GET UP KIDS – FOUR MINUTE MILE (1997)

"I heard The Get Up Kids because of this videogam that used to be on the internet called Emogame. The Get Up Kids get kidnapped by Aerosmith and you have to try to rescue them. It's totally hilarious. like this record because it has so many really good songs on it. You know when you get to the stage of growing up, where you're picking your own music out and not just listening to the radio? That was this record for me."

ALKALINE TRIO – FROM HERE TO INFIRMARY (2001)

"When I was going to school, I had a buddy, Matt, who was a super-big punk kid. I listened to pop-punk and Finch and The Starting Line, but he liked heavier punk like old AFI and Misfits. Every once in a while he'd allow me to play something with melody in his car, and [I'd put on] this record. We both had a secret love for it. I really enjoy Matt Skiba's voice – he has one of those voices where you can just hear it and instantly know it's him."





Benji says. "And before I met Kellin, I saw him as one of those stars of his class."

Someone mentions Kellin and haircutting in the same sentence, which prompts Kellin to share a rare anecdote about when he was a hairdresser before the band. "I cut my kids' hair all the time," he explains. "I haven't done a grown-up's hair cut in a few years. I ended up singing more to my clients – unconsciously, I'd be cutting and singing. I also bussed tables at [chain burger joint] Red Robin and I'd get negative comments in the feedback: 'There's this one kid with blonde in his hair who keeps singing and it disrupted our meal.'"

Talk, however, remains mostly business. It flits between who's working on what and the next up-and-coming band. And then, in a blink, we turn around and Kellin's off again, to have his own lunch with the Maddens. The invite is not extended our way.

Back at the hotel, reluctantly, slowly, the door has opened. Label reps come outside and tell us we have 30 minutes for our interview. We should hurry – Kellin's not in the mood. After two days with the vocalist, we've had near-death experiences with a rental driver, cool industry pals swinging in and out, last-minute secret meetings, hangovers and lots of coffee all standing between us and a proper heart-to-heart. We sink back into the pool loungers with drinks. It seems obvious where to start filling in the gaps – the very beginning.

Kellin Quinn grew up in Medford, Oregon, where he now lives with his wife, Katelynne, and their children (Katelynne has two sons from a previous relationship, while the pair had a daughter, Copeland, in 2012). Around eighth grade, his parents split and his mum moved to Sacramento, California, for work and a fresh start. His dad raised him and his siblings – two younger brothers and a pair of younger sisters. Their relationship prompted lyrics about the father he felt *'never gave a damn'* about him. Tonight, he says, that everything is different.

"My dad had to be the serious person," Kellin admits. "He had to be the one who had the structure and the rules and had to do all the boring stuff, and my mom, who I only saw every other weekend or for my birthday, was the fun, silly mom. I know that now as a parent, being a stepfather and the one that raises those boys. Their dad gets to be what my mom was. I respect my dad a lot more now and we have a really good relationship."

Now he's about to leave his 20s, Kellin's feelings have changed towards his mother, too. "I think my mom is an amazing person and I don't feel bad about her leaving. I was disappointed as a kid because I wanted to spend more time with her. But you gotta do what you gotta do in your own life. I just think she wouldn't be the same person she is now if she didn't leave. She'd be stuck in some shitty job. And my mom being happy is the happiest thing to me."

He's explaining this all with total clarity and maturity, looking up at the sky and the balconies opposite. His mother's destiny sounds incredibly familiar. Living your own truth, personal dreams and ambition, the anchoring of family, the port of return.

Now that he's a parent and step-parent himself, what does he think makes a good dad? "I don't know if there's a good answer for that," he replies. "I think being a good dad is just learning from shit you do and being conscious of being a dad. Being there and caring. Worrying is something I do a lot."

It's believable, too. As much as it's been fun in LA, it's also been evident that Kellin's is a mind full of thoughts.

Life changed forever when he met his wife while she was in beauty school. "I thought she was just a fucking fox, dude. She was pregnant with her youngest son at the time and going through a divorce. I just saw that girl and thought, 'I wanna be a good dude to a girl like that.' Who has a kid, is pregnant *and* fucking goes to beauty school all day long and works her ass off? I dunno. I think there's probably something in there related to my mom, you know? With her being a single mom, something in me wanted to be the guy that takes care of her."

He's speaking fluidly now, without being prompted. "Sometimes I think to myself… I get so lost in all of this stupid shit. Like, music is cool, but there are more important things than what you do for a job, you know? And sometimes I let that get in the way of me being a good husband. It's not an easy job to be a good husband. It's definitely tough to think, 'It's not just about me, I can't just put this girl on the back burner.' Being a good dad, too… Trying to juggle all that shit at the same time, sometimes it's a struggle."

Despite that, Kellin appears to be making it work, moving between LA, Oregon and touring, which this week brings Sleeping With Sirens back to the UK. "I hold it together as much as I can," Kellin smiles. "I definitely see myself picking and choosing shit that I do now more

"I DON'T CRY. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SMILE ON DEMAND, OR HOW TO CRY"
KELLIN QUINN

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS

KNOWING KELLIN

QUICKFIRE QUESTIONS WITH THE SLEEPING WITH SIRENS FRONTMAN...

MY BIGGEST HERO IS...
My Wife

MY FAVOURITE FOOD IS...
Pizza

MY FAVOURITE MOVIE IS...
Almost Famous

MY CELEBRITY CRUSH IS...
Kate Hudson

THE FIRST THING I THINK ABOUT IN THE MORNING IS...
Coffee / my daughter

MY FAVOURITE TV SHOW IS...
Peaky Blinders, Penny dreadful

THE ONE THING I WISH I COULD DO IS...
Direct a movie

MY SUPERPOWER OF CHOICE WOULD BE TO...
Fly

MY FIRST MEMORY IS...
My Mom

THE THING I'M MOST SCARED OF IS...
Spiders

AS A KID I WANTED TO BE...
actor, artist, singer

MY FAVOURITE SUBJECT AT SCHOOL WAS...
philosophy

MY SELF-PORTRAIT WOULD LOOK LIKE...

Due to a mix-up at reception, Kellin was forced to spend the night pool-side

than I used to. It might be two years before we go back to the UK [after this run] because I wanna be mindful of that shit. I don't wanna be on tour and seem stressed and bummed-out. That's not fair to the fans and that's not fair to me."

The previous day, Kellin had joked about being really grumpy when he tours a lot. It's a modern day balance to strive for, one that ends inevitably in sore hearts if not found. How far do you strive for your dreams and being true to yourself without leaving behind what matters: the people you care about, to whom you've made promises? Is it a big theme for his life, trying to balance home and work? "Yeah, it's becoming that way," he says quietly. "As my daughter, Copeland, gets older, she's more conscious of me leaving and stuff. So, it's tougher to..." His words trail off. Lying on the sunlounger, all in black, he starts to cry. He continues through a minute of silence between us, rubbing his fingers over his red eyes. The sun has just set over LA and the chill is coming in over the hills. The entire poolside of his hotel is empty, save for us, the plummets of steam billowing off the hot water as the barman polishes glasses.

Kellin looks down and starts to cry. "It's tougher to see me leave, you know?" After a while, he swings his legs around to face Kerrang!, sipping a bottle of water to compose himself, his face so innocently sad. "She gives me that disappointed kinda look, you know? Like, 'When are you coming back?' It just crushes me. I think she'll look up to me for it some day. I just kinda keep that in my head. I just don't want band stuff to be a selfish thing for me any more. I just want to put her first..."

Who is Kellin Quinn? He's firmly a rockstar, but firstly he's a husband and a dad, doing his best to be a good man. Knowing all this puts a lot of Kellin's thoughts and attitude into perspective a little. What is the worth of using energy for people-pleasing, for entertaining press or fans, when being a vocalist and family man takes 99 per cent of that? "It's weird to me that so many people rely on me personally," he admits. "The team that works with me, fans, my band relies on me, my family rely on me. It's just a lot, you know? I have to stop myself and breathe and say it's all really silly. All the shit we do in music all day long, it's silly."

Kellin laughs and reiterates that despite all of those complaints, he loves his life. We've been chatting for a couple of hours and it's starting to get cold. Kellin is picking at a BLT ordered from the pool bar and has goosebumps on his legs through the rips in his jeans.

"It's really funny that I teared, up because I don't cry, at all. Like, ever," he says out of nowhere. "It's actually a big problem with me. I think it's because I'm tired and I got emotional, but it really felt good. I never get to do it, I don't know how. I don't know how to smile on demand with my teeth or how to cry."

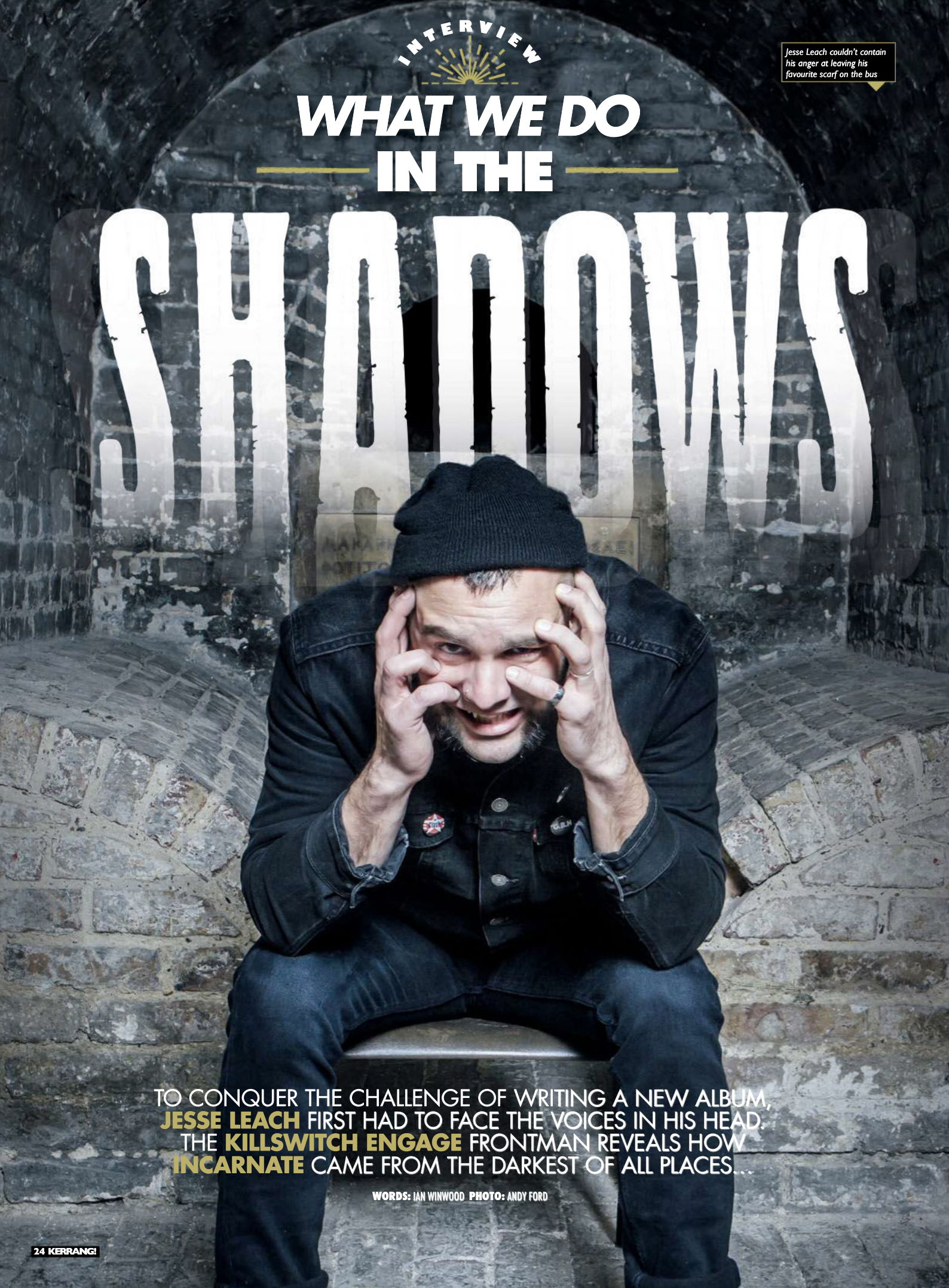
A Facetime call pops up. It's Katelynne and Copeland. We all gather around to see a beautiful little girl singing Blurryface by twenty one pilots. She's sassy, showing us how good she is at counting on a new book the pair had just bought from the store. They bounce back-and-forth 'I love you's and a promise of the ritual goodnight Facetime call when they're apart.

Kellin says goodbye, smiling, and turns back to a Los Angeles night full of possibility.

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS TOUR THE UK THIS WEEK – SEE THE GIG GUIDE. THE BAND'S NEW ALBUM, LIVE AND UNPLUGGED, IS RELEASED ON APRIL 8

INTERVIEW

WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS



Jesse Leach couldn't contain his anger at leaving his favourite scarf on the bus

TO CONQUER THE CHALLENGE OF WRITING A NEW ALBUM, **JESSE LEACH** FIRST HAD TO FACE THE VOICES IN HIS HEAD. THE **KILLSWITCH ENGAGE** FRONTMAN REVEALS HOW **INCARNATE** CAME FROM THE DARKEST OF ALL PLACES...

WORDS: IAN WINWOOD **PHOTO:** ANDY FORD

Jesse Leach likes the term 'head noise'. Over large tracts of his adult life, the 37-year-old two-time frontman for New England metalcore stalwarts Killswitch Engage has been held in check, and sometimes held hostage, by the pincer movements of anxiety and depression. Although undiagnosed for these conditions, this tattooed son of a church minister has undergone therapy in the hope of calming what ails him. Solitude, alcohol, drugs, mysticism and theology have also guided him toward the conclusion that the clamour in his head will every now and again cause him to "really come undone".

"I've reached a point in my life where I realise I'm not fully balanced," he says.

He continues: "You know, I was raised as a very strict Christian by a father who was a minister. My parents were very protective and sheltered me, I think to a flawed extent. It left me unprepared for when I began to discover worldly things. When I discovered punk rock, along with that came a drug habit, and along with that came alcoholism."

What was your drug of choice?

"At first, it was acid," he says, "but then I'd be dabbling with cocaine. And then the cocaine eventually led to heroin. But that's where you have to pump the brakes. Cocaine can be fun; but with heroin, people die."

With a curriculum vitae that features the names of no fewer than six groups – including Seemless, The Empire Shall Fall and Times Of Grace among them – if nothing else, Jesse Leach has dedicated himself to his life's work with unstinting commitment. Receiving questions in Kerrang! HQ, the Yonkers, New York, native looks the part, too, with his oxblood Dr Martens, his Cock Sparrer T-shirt and a tattoo of The Clash's Joe Strummer that bears a less than striking resemblance to the man himself.

Like Joe Strummer, when Jesse Leach hits the stage, he hits it hard. But on nights when the burden of depression blackens the sky like a murder of crows, summoning the energy required to honour this commitment is in no way easy. It is more than a question of pulling oneself together. As the comic genius Spike Milligan once observed, telling someone battling depression to pull themselves together is like telling someone with a broken leg to get up and walk.

"It's not easy at all," says Jesse of such nights. "But I've learned to power through it by relying on a lot of alcohol. I'll drink a bunch of whisky, or I'll drink a bunch of tequila – I've actually switched to tequila because it's more of a stimulant – and I'll have four or five shots or glasses of that beforehand to help me get through the set. Then when I've managed to get through the set I'll crawl back into my bunk [on the tour bus] and tune out the rest of the world."

What is your relationship with alcohol today?

While his band went for a wee, Jesse entertained the Download 2014 crowd with a quick game of 'Guess how many fingers I'm holding up'

> **"THE JOY I FEEL FROM CREATING SOMETIMES COMES FROM A DARK PLACE"**
> **JESSE LEACH**

Jesse Leach laughs, with less than full humour.

"It's occasionally a problem," he admits. "I'll have a binge night where I just don't want to stop."

And what is your relationship with drugs?

Pause.

"Occasional."

Armed with edible marijuana, a satchel of chocolate infused with magic mushrooms prepared by an acquaintance who works as a chef, not to mention a determination to clear his mind of clutter, last year Jesse removed himself from his home north of the Bronx and headed to the Catskill Mountains in southeastern New York State. It was here that boxer 'Iron' Mike Tyson learned to knock the heads off of other human beings, and where Jesse learned to dust off the creative fluff that he felt had been dampening the immediacy of his more recent lyrics. In place of this now stands the harder-hitting, more personal and more creative couplets that comprise the lyrics of Killswitch Engage's forthcoming album, Incarnate.

"I spent time with myself and my inner demons," says Jesse. "I like to hang out in places where I know I won't run into another human being and where I can really come undone and face these inner demons, and even have an out-loud conversation with them if need be. Being [in the wilderness] means not being afraid to lose control of your emotions, whether these be violent or sad. If you're in the middle of nowhere and you want to be violent with an inanimate object, then you can do that. Or, if you want to sit quietly and weep, well, you can do that, too."

Did you learn anything about yourself writing the lyrics for Incarnate?

"Yeah," comes the answer, the beat unmissed. "I learned that I have a lot to learn."

You've described yourself as being unbalanced. Creative people often are. Would you swap your creativity for balance?

"No."

Why not?

"Because it's who I am. I don't mind that the joy I feel from creating sometimes comes from a dark place."

Jesse Leach willingly describes himself as being "a work in progress" and, to be honest, this seems about right. Once a resolute and orthodox Christian, a direct result of his father's job of work, now the son has his doubts, believing that "there is a God" but that he's open "to thinking that there's an alien race out there" as well. When it comes to the black dogs of depression, anxiety and despair, the singer is savvy enough to realise that these conditions will probably tug at his sleeve in some form or another until the day he dies. "Sometimes I don't realise how bad things have gotten until I come out of it," he says, while pointing to family and friends as bulwarks and protectors if and when things do head south. But one thing of which Jesse Leach is certain is that whatever ails him will not impede his life's vocation: music.

"It's like [author] Charles Bukowski said, 'Find what you love and let it kill you,'" he says. "And I don't mean it killing me by my own hand, I mean dying from music; on the bus while on the road, say, or a heart attack while I'm on tour. I'm fine with that. I'm romantically entwined with that idea.

"I'd rather music kill me than me have to give it up."

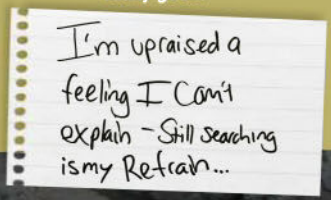
INCARNATE IS RELEASED ON MARCH 11 VIA ROADRUNNER RECORDS. KILLSWITCH ENGAGE PLAY DOWNLOAD THIS JUNE – SEE THE GIG GUIDE

INSIDE *INCARNATE*

JESSE OPENS HIS LYRIC BOOK ON THE MOST PERSONAL TRACKS AND LYRICS ON KsE'S NEW RECORD

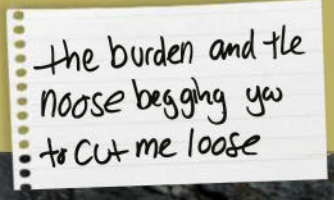
EMBRACE THE JOURNEY... UPRAISED

"What I'm trying to say here in so many words is that when I have a feeling of bliss, and when I'm happy... I don't have the words to explain this feeling. But it's about wrestling with the darkness and light, and this is about the days when I do feel really good."



CUT ME LOOSE

"This line comes initially from a dark place. The word 'noose' refers to suicidal thoughts, and the burden being my depression and my anxiety. The burden and the noose begging you to cut me loose is almost saying it to God – 'Set me free.' And that could mean a couple of things."



HATE BY DESIGN

"For me, it's about pulling away from what's ingrained in you from childhood, and from society dictating the systematic hatred of things, and I think these things are killing us. Whether it's political or religious, it's a murderous doctrine and it's very dangerous."

Joel (left) and Benji Madden saved valuable tour expense by acting as security to their own shows

"THERE ISN'T SOME MASTER PLAN. THIS IS JUST SPECIAL TO US"

JOEL MADDEN

INTERVIEW

HIGH

IT'S THE POP-PUNK COMEBACK OF 2016 – AND THEY'RE HERE TO STAY. AS **JOEL** AND **BENJI MADDEN** EXPLAIN, WHEN IT COMES TO **GOOD CHARLOTTE**'S REVIVAL, WE'VE NOT SEEN ANYTHING YET…

WORDS: PAUL TRAVERS **PHOTOS:** TOM MARTIN, PAUL HARRIES

"We're back, bitches!"

Watching Good Charlotte dominate at the O2 Arena in London, there's certainly no denying that statement. Over the course of an 11-song set, the band holds the 20,000-capacity venue in the palms of their tattooed hands. They orchestrate mass sing-alongs and, as they bring things to a hot and sticky conclusion with Lifestyles Of The Rich And Famous, they demand (and get) the biggest pop-punk circle-pit The O2 has ever seen.

It's just like old times, except for one thing: this is not Good Charlotte's show. Tonight, the one-time pop-punk kings are playing second fiddle to a newer band who, if not quite young enough to be their offspring, could certainly be their kid brothers.

So, for a band who have been to the heights themselves, is it a weird position to find themselves in, supporting All Time Low?

"It's a great one, man," insists guitarist Benji Madden.

"We're really enjoying this tour. All Time Low are from [GC's home state of] Maryland as well and I remember meeting those guys and telling them we'd be opening for them one day. I'm extremely proud of them. And I think it's a great way for us to come back. I mean, we haven't been back in the UK for six years, or something. I think it's a really great way to come back into the UK and say a quick hello to everyone."

Benji sounds genuine. He really does. And perhaps he even is. Good Charlotte have certainly struck up a friendship with All Time Low of late, writing and guesting on their 2015 Future Hearts album. Last year, GC frontman Joel Madden also teamed up with Alex Gaskarth and members of 5 Seconds Of Summer and Simple Plan on a charity Christmas single, a cover of Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas. This support tour has been spectacularly successful as far as a 'quick hello' goes, and one of the advantages in making a comeback of this sort is in allowing a band to gauge the level of demand for their return without the potential embarrassment of half-filled venues.

Good Charlotte announced they were going on a self-imposed hiatus back in 2011, and that was last time they played the UK. So, were they not worried at all that things might have moved on in those five years – that there would be no audience to come back to?

"No, we don't worry about that," Benji says. "Obviously, the warm reception we've gotten is a welcome feeling. It's been really great, but we didn't factor that into the equation. It was more about us."

"There isn't some big master plan for us to take over the world, or anything," Joel explains. "Honestly, this is just special to us and everything we do around this is going to be special to us. Because there's no guarantee how long we're going to do it, we really just want to go on our feelings.

"We're also passionate about the shows. We want kids to be able to come and see Good Charlotte because a lot of them haven't been able to. A lot of pop-punk bands now haven't been able to see Good Charlotte. I think that the music-listening audience – the people who like pop-punk, new fans, old fans, whatever – we feel that if it's special to us, they'll appreciate it and it'll hopefully be special to them."

Good Charlotte are a band that have certainly been special to a lot of people over the years. They sold millions of albums in their first run-through, scoring a string of hits and playing countless sold-out shows in the process. In the year following the release of their breakthrough second album, 2002's The Young And The Hopeless, they completed two huge arena tours in the U.S. – co-headlining the Honda Civic Tour alongside New Found Glory before setting out on their own later in the year.

Not that everyone was convinced at first. In 2003, they also played at the Reading & Leeds Festivals, on a main stage headlined by Metallica. The bottling they suffered was of quite epic proportions, and that division of opinion followed them wherever they went.

"The worst thing is when people come up to me and want to challenge how punk I am… I'm not punk and I don't even like it," guitarist Billy Martin told Kerrang! back in 2004.

"I won't lie, though: controversy and debate is good for business," Joel added. "The bands that people love and hate, where it's divided down the middle, are the ones people remember. Drama makes life interesting."

And are they still happy to be that polarising force today, all these years on?

"WE'LL NEVER BE THE KIDS WHO MADE THAT FIRST ALBUM. BUT WE'RE PROUD OF THEM"

BENJI MADDEN

"I'd rather be hot or cold than in the middle," shrugs Benji. "At this point in my life, I notice the people who love us, and I don't really notice anything else."

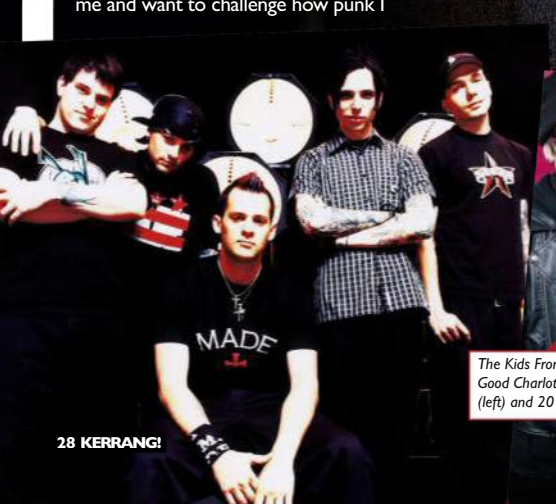
In 2004, however, the band were still on a quest to shed their image as nothing more than purveyors of pop-rock froth. Third album The Chronicles Of Life And Death saw them adopt a broader musical palette and some darker lyrical themes. The album started and finished with an orchestral passage that was supposed to represent the cycle of life and death.

"You're born alone and you die alone," Joel explained at the time. "No-one can help you and no-one can stop those things. They are the equaliser for all of us. No matter if you're the President of the United States or a junkie on the streets, every man is equal when it comes to birth and death."

The album was the highest-charting of their career (hitting Number Three in the U.S. and Number Eight over here) but it didn't quite have the stamina of The Young And The Hopeless. Still, shifting an eventual two million copies, rather than three million-plus, hardly represents a face plant and, by the time 2007's Good Morning Revival rolled around, Good Charlotte appeared to be in fine fettle. When Kerrang! interviewed them it was in Joel's plush LA pad – a Mediterranean-style villa that had featured on MTV Cribs and had more than £100,000 worth of cars in the driveway.

They still talked about their working-class roots and difficult beginnings, and these were undeniably authentic. The core members of the band – the Madden twins, Billy and bassist Paul Thomas – had all grown up poor in Waldorf, Maryland. Benji and Joel's father walked out on the family on Christmas Eve when the boys were just 16 years old.

In 2007, though, they had celebrity girlfriends and money in the bank. They'd gone from singing



The Kids From Yesterday: Good Charlotte in 2005 (left) and 2016 (right)

disparagingly about Lifestyles Of The Rich And Famous to living it themselves.

"If I'm honest, I like the lifestyle I've been afforded in the last few years," Benji said then. I wake up every day and I have a moment where I giggle and think, 'Wow, my life is great.'"

Everything seemed positive on the surface, but behind the scenes things weren't quite so healthy.

"I've had to change a lot about myself," Joel told K! a few years later. "My irresponsibility, my carelessness. I had a bit of a self-destructive side, which isn't something I've really shared with a lot of people. There was a time when I was just really careless and reckless."

Benji was going through his own problems, having broken up with his long-term partner, model and pop singer Sophie Monk. Joel described his brother at that time as existing "in a tornado of darkness".

One of the things that helped both men get their lives in perspective was a trip to the Central African Republic to work on behalf of children's charity UNICEF.

"We were in the middle of nowhere, surrounded by rebels with bazookas and machine guns. We were in this camp, by a fire, under the stars. Benji turned to me and said, 'I've got to change my life,'" Joel recalled. "If he hadn't made the decision to do that, he would have one foot in the grave right now."

Whatever your personal opinions of Good Charlotte, you have to respect the fact that they've been vocal supporters for a number of causes including charities and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. So, did that rich and famous lifestyle put them in a place where they could turn their status into something socially positive?

"Sure, but if you really listen to the lyrics of that song, we're essentially saying, 'If you don't want it, we'll take it,'" nods Benji. "We've been given a lot of blessings and our instinct has always been to share and encourage and maybe give other people what we found in rougher, harder times… which is just some hope, y'know."

There was one more album to come, in the shape of 2010's Cardiology. Good Charlotte also found time to headline the 2011 Kerrang! Tour before deciding to take an extended break towards the end of that year.

"We a little burnt out. We had been going for, like, 12 years straight without stopping and we had all started families," Joel explains. "We had just had kids, and it was a time in our lives when we were kind of going, 'Is there more to life than being in a big band?' And so we killed it for a reason. We didn't break up. We all went off to discover what it would be like to be dads and husbands and have families."

As well as being dads and husbands, the band members all kept busy in other ways, too. The twins released a mixtape and a full studio album under the banner of The Madden Brothers and wrote for other artists. Paul went back to school, Billy did animation work for Disney and Nickelodeon, and drummer Dean Butterworth went back to studio and session work. Benji and Joel also appeared on the Australian version of The Voice (Joel has been a judge from the start of the show) and filled column inches in the celebrity mags, thanks largely to their other halves – Joel is married to one Nicole Richie and Benji to Cameron Diaz.

During the hiatus, were they comfortable being seen by some as celebrities rather than musicians?

"We don't pay attention to that," Benji shrugs. "There's a whole element to the world that we don't really pay attention to and I think it serves us to live that way. Otherwise we'd be walking around too much worried about what people are thinking. So, yeah, we really don't give that too much thought."

As for Good Charlotte's forthcoming sixth album, both brothers agree that it sums up the band they put so much of their life and love into.

"I'd say it's a quintessential Good Charlotte record," Benji smiles. "There are lots of different elements on the record, like we always try to do. It's a feel-good record and I'm excited for people to hear it."

And are they as excited by this band now as they ever were?

"Look, we'll never be the 20-year-old guys who made the first album, but we love those kids and we're proud of them," the guitarist says. "If I were to go back and talk to my younger self, I would just say, 'Don't be too hard on yourself, and enjoy the ride.' I don't think we could have done it better than the first time.

"[But] now we're all grown men and there's a good balance. All the fans really want is for you to be genuine, and that's exactly where we're at now. We're happy to be in Good Charlotte. And I think as far as being Good Charlotte goes, nobody does a better Good Charlotte than us!"

For a full report of Good Charlotte's London show with All Time Low, turn to page 46 now!

Baseball cap misdirection ruined an otherwise superbly executed coordination of stage attire

ALBUMS OF THE RICH & FAMOUS

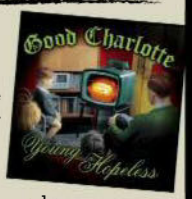
BENJI MADDEN REASSESSES HIS BAND'S LIFETIME WORK…

GOOD CHARLOTTE (2000)

K! SAID… "It might not be particularly clever, but it is undoubtedly big… There isn't a song on here that couldn't be a worldwide smash." *(KKKK, K!835)*

BENJI SAYS… "We just wanted to make a better life. We were young and excited kids who were full of dreams and still trying to figure out our musical identity. Touring that record was when we started finding out who we were, or who we would become, at least."

THE YOUNG AND THE HOPELESS (2002)



K! SAID… "Good Charlotte are ready to make their mark, a live-wire beacon of authenticity that will leave their shallow peers in the shadows." *(KKKK, K!934)*

BENJI SAYS… "This album changed our lives. We'd gone out into the world and felt both the positive and the negative. And on The Young And The Hopeless we decided to really take a direction and stand up for ourselves, in a way. We showed our teeth a little."

THE CHRONICLES OF LIFE AND DEATH (2004)

K! SAID… "While GC are to be applauded for taking chances, this is not quite their masterpiece." *(KKK, K!1027)*

BENJI SAYS… "We were showing our depth. We didn't want any rules, we didn't want any boundaries… We wanted to do the things that we wanted to do. I was really proud of that album. We were also dealing with the fact that we were starting to grow up. We were 25 and starting to make sense of everything."

GOOD MORNING REVIVAL (2007)

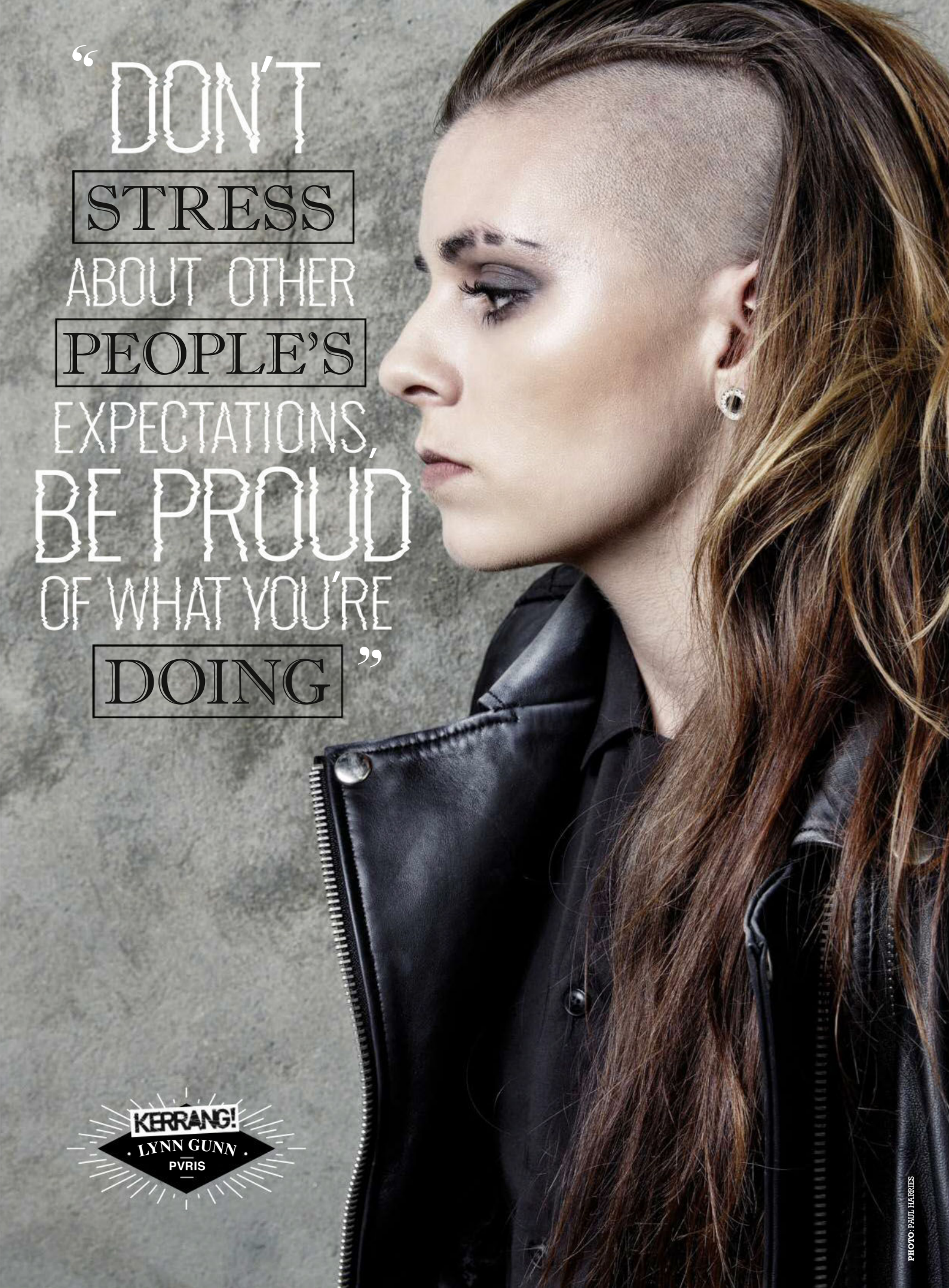
K! SAID… "They still have a knack for a mammoth chorus… the melodies [are] so immediate as to lodge irresistibly in your head." *(KKKK, K!1149)*

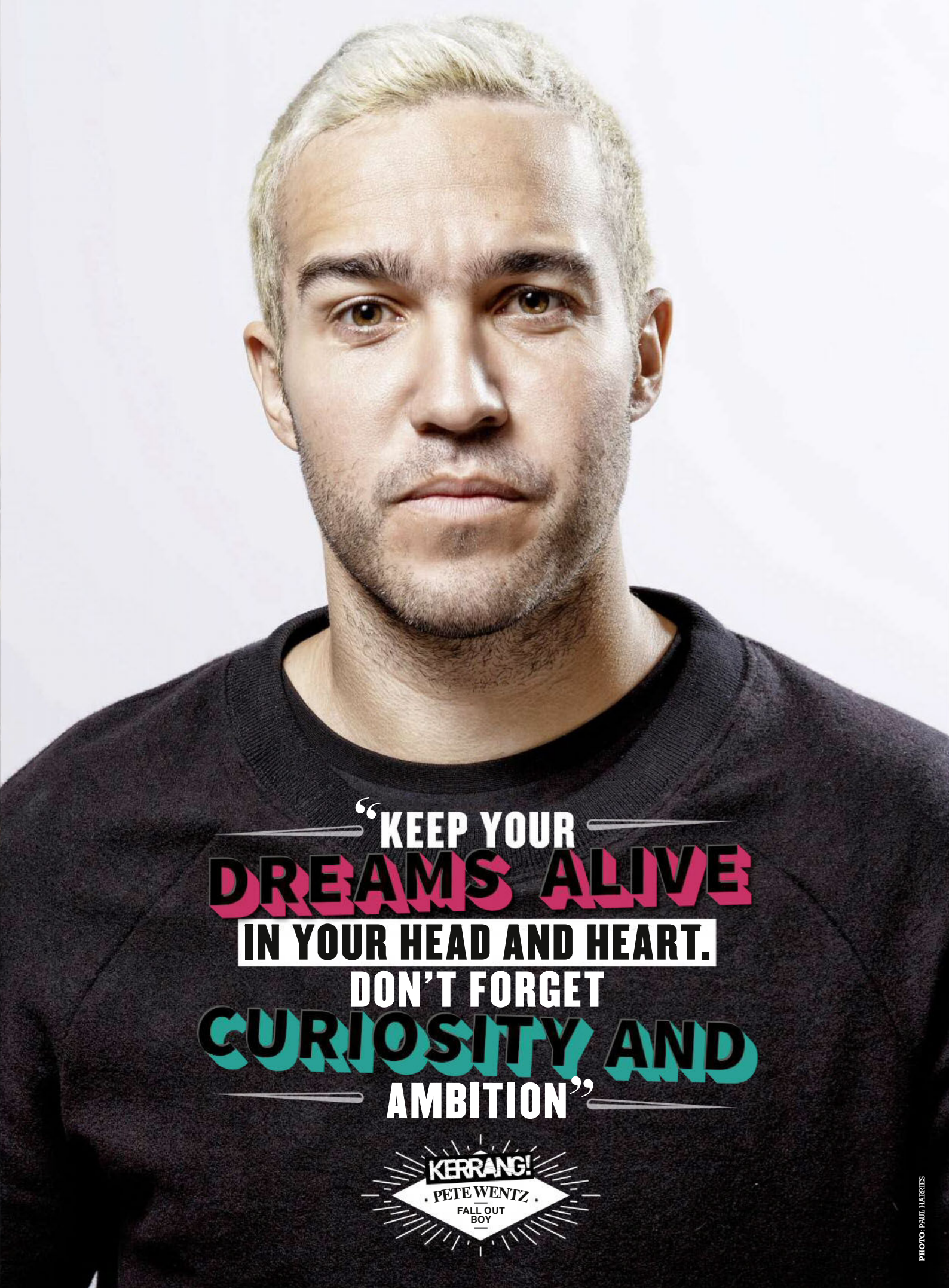
BENJI SAYS… "This was when we either could have quit or do what we did. At the time, it was so different to anything anyone else was doing. We ended up having one of our biggest hits [Dance Floor Anthem], but that record was a lot of work. We could have tried to make The Young And The Hopeless again, but that, to me, would have been giving up."

CARDIOLOGY (2010)

K! SAID… "Cardiology is not only delicately laced with knowing nods and winks to the past, it also has an eye on their future. While they may have grown up, Good Charlotte have not lost sight of who they are." *(KKKK, K!1336)*

BENJI SAYS… "Cardiology was a very special album for me. It was really important, more emotionally than anything else at that time. That record was more for me and the band than it was for anybody else. That was us really seeing it through and, through making that album, we really came to the place emotionally where we were like, 'I think we need to find out who we are individually.'"


“DON’T STRESS ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE’S EXPECTATIONS, BE PROUD OF WHAT YOU’RE DOING”
KERRANG!
LYNN GUNN
PVRIS
PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES


"KEEP YOUR
DREAMS ALIVE
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PETE WENTZ
FALL OUT BOY
PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

"THE BEST
VENGEANCE
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KERRANG!
ASH COSTELLO
NEW YEARS DAY
PHOTO: JEREMY SAFFER

PHOTO: ENRIQUE FABELA

"BE TRUE TO YOURSELF. WHEN YOU'RE MISALIGNED WITH WHO YOU ARE, YOU GET SICK"

KERRANG!

GERARD WAY

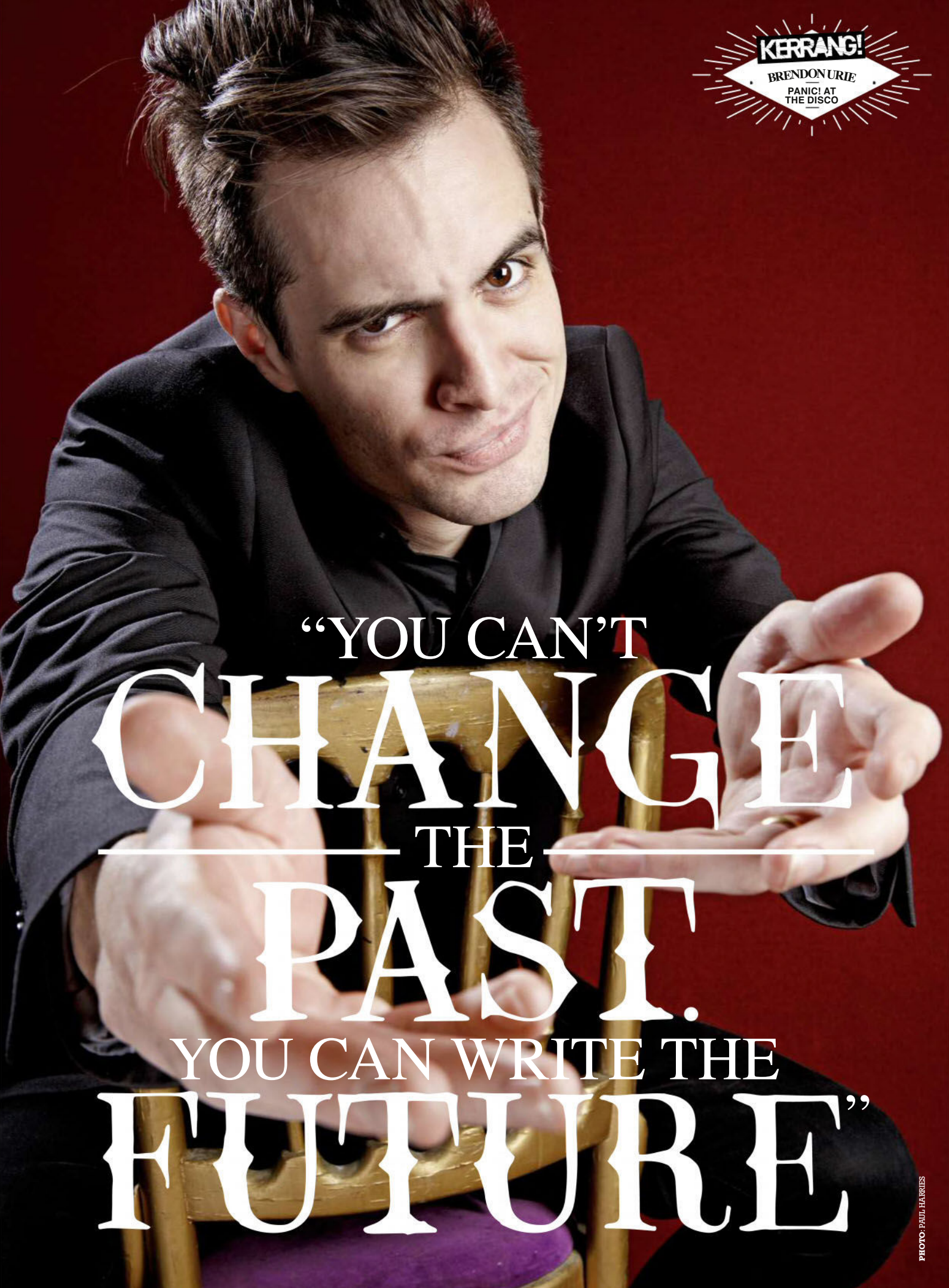
"ANYTHING THAT MAKES YOU WANT TO DANCE OR DESTROY SOMETHING IS GOOD"

KERRANG!

VIC FUENTES.

PIERCE THE VEIL

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIS



"YOU CAN'T CHANGE THE PAST. YOU CAN WRITE THE FUTURE"

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

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"BLACK METAL IS EXTREME MUSIC, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO BECOME AN 'EXTREMIST'"

ABBATH

INTERVIEW

WAKING THE DEMON

WITH **IMMORTAL**, FRONTMAN **ABBATH**'S PLACE IN BLACK METAL HISTORY WAS SECURE. SO, WHY'S HE STEPPED OUT ON HIS OWN? AND WHY WON'T HE STOP LAUGHING? NICK RUSKELL MEETS THE SELF-STYLED 'METAL DEMON'…

Abbath's greeting comes with a cackle. Not an evil one, but one with the detritus of 5,000 cigarettes and a barrel of whisky behind it, roared out like Brian Blessed in a good mood. It's not normally what you'd expect from a man whose public face is covered in corpsepaint, and who helped shape the sound of the infamous Norwegian black metal scene of the 1990s. His new solo album – having split rather acrimoniously from Immortal after 20-odd years and a successful reunion – starts with a song called To War!. And here he is, laughing his head off, serenading Kerrang! with a rendition of Blueberry Hill by 1950s rock'n'roll cat Fats Domino.

"'*I fooooound myyy thriiiill, on Blueberry Hiiiiiiill…*'"

If you're thinking Abbath is a silly bastard – well, he is. But, like his hero Lemmy, his chucklesome demeanour and refusal to take himself too seriously is in stark contrast to the man's musical output. Immortal were one of black metal's defining bands, while Abbath (the album) is testament to the man's fighting spirit.

"'*Oooon Blueberry Hill…*'"

What happened with Immortal, Abbath? How come this is now Abbath the solo guy?

"If it was up to me, Immortal would have been on tour," he sighs. "But, y'know, suddenly I was on my own – that's how I felt, anyway. We couldn't work as a band any more. This thing I have going on now, it's like something came in and rescued the whole situation, I think, because Immortal was going fucking nowhere at that point."

Right, so tell us about the name and the make-up and everything that makes you Abbath.

"I have no problem going up onstage," he says, before dropping into a Darth Vader voice. "*Abbath. Get – on – that – stage. It – is – your – des-tin-y* (*laughs*)."

This might take a while…

Handily, Abbath's stage clothes doubled up as Game Of Thrones cosplay

PHOTOS: PAUL HARRIES

So, who the fuck is Abbath, then? Well, the potted history: he was born just over 42 years ago in Bergen, Norway, under his real name Olve Eikemo ("Olve means 'warrior'," he grins, proudly). As a kid, he'd hear his parents' rock'n'roll records, but his first real interest in music came through goodie bags he'd get on a Saturday morning, the best bit of which would be collectable cards of a certain mysterious American band.

"Sometimes they'd be movie stars, sometimes they'd be ABBA, and sometimes they were football cards. But one day there were these Kiss cards," he remembers. "I looked at it and was like, 'Wow! They look like superheroes, but they have instruments!' I saw those cards before I'd even heard them, and one day the Destroyer record [from 1976] came along and that was it."

By the time he was 15, Abbath had dropped his first instrument, the trumpet (when he tells us this, he gives us a few lines of Louis Armstrong's What A Wonderful World), got a bass and began playing with two friends ("We sucked, and getting a band together was a long and exciting process…" he smirks). But things would soon change when Abbath discovered black metal via Swedish legends Bathory and Geordie pioneers Venom.

"I had all the Kiss albums, but I got a record player and my first vinyl was [Venom's 1981 debut] Welcome To Hell. I bought it from a guy at school," he recounts. "I always liked mystique, the mystique of Bathory, how you knew nothing about them, there was no touring, very little other than the music."

He wasn't the only Scandinavian youth turning to the dark side. As well as the recently formed Immortal, Bergen was home to Burzum, the one-man band of Varg Vikernes, who had played with Abbath and Immortal guitarist Demonaz in previous band Old Funeral (demo title: The Fart That Should Not Be). In Oslo, to the south, scene leaders Mayhem were leading the Scandinavian black metal charge through the underground.

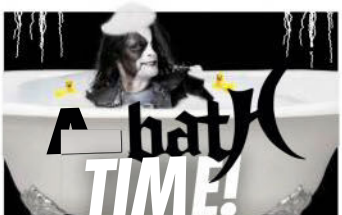
"Mayhem, Emperor, Darkthrone: when I hear those old albums, I get goosebumps. I think I'm going to listen to [Darkthrone's] A Blaze In The Northern Sky now!"

But as The Northern Sky did indeed begin to blaze, and members of Emperor and Burzum were implicated in a string of church arsons – not to mention the murder of Mayhem leader Euronymous by Varg, and Emperor drummer Faust's killing of a stranger in the woods behind Lillehammer's Olympic Park – Abbath and Immortal distanced themselves. They were not Satanists. They did not burn churches. This wasn't their bag at all.

"I was 20 years old, and I was shocked, y'know," Abbath recounts. "I never expected it, that some of my friends would go that fucking far. Those activities made me mad, because it was about the music, the atmosphere. It's extreme music, but you don't have to become a fucking *extremist* to be accepted as an extremist (*manic cackle*)."

Instead, Immortal would somehow become just as mysterious and shadowy by becoming obsessed with the snowy mountains of their Northern surroundings.

"The night we finished recording our first album, it was three or four at night, and there was a blizzard outside," he explains. "We went to this old monastery to take a picture, and just went, 'Fucking hell! That's *our* fucking thing!' Also, the cover of our first album is from that photo session. My father drove us to this place, and it was minus-15. We had the car running the whole time to keep warm!"



THE BIG MAN WON'T BE LATHERING UP WITH THE MATEY ANY TIME SOON…

SO, ABBATH TAKES A BATH: WHAT TO YOU IS THE ULTIMATE BATH SOUNDTRACK?

"I never take a bath. I like to swim and I take a sauna, but never a bath. I like to listen to good live albums when I'm putting on my make-up before I play a show: KISS Alive, Thin Lizzy's Live And Dangerous, Motörhead's No Sleep 'Til Hammersmith."

IF YOU *WERE* TO HAVE A BATH, WOULD YOU WANT IT HOTTER THAN HELL?

"(*Long pause*) What the fuck is that kind of question (*manic cackle*)?"

Abbath laughs *a lot*. He frequently sings at us, all in a thick, masculine voice. His part in Immortal may be over, but the man remains the Lord Of Winter, an extreme metal Gene Simmons. He laughs off the video on YouTube of Immortal's Call Of The Wintermoon video with Benny Hill's theme over the top and smiles when he's told Rob Halford sports an Immortal patch on his Judas Priest stage clothes.

"Good old Halford, yeah. *Sir* Halford. Rob Halford, he's a true knight, over and above, a metal god, and I'm proud to be his friend."

So, are you a metal god, like Halford, Abbath?

"Not really, no… I'm a *metal demon!* HAHAHA!"

There we go. Abbath: loon, crooner, metal demon. Just how we like him.

ABBATH'S SELF-TITLED DEBUT ALBUM IS OUT NOW VIA SEASON OF MIST

Question Time took on a decidedly more metal feel

Blood Brot

As anyone who caught Creeper's show at London's Old Blue Last in September can attest – a gig in which the band were practically carried offstage by a crowd claiming them as their own – it's hard to imagine Will Gould feeling alone. But that's exactly how the frontman felt some four years ago.

Then, he was at Middlesbrough's Make A Scene Festival with his then-band Our Time Down Here. Entering the backstage area, he suddenly felt isolated.

"I didn't know a lot of the bands there and a few of them were a bit too cool for school," recalls Will. Just as he was about to initiate that foolproof method of killing time when you don't know anyone (fiddling with your phone), Will suddenly saw a face he recognised – that of FVK's Kier Kemp.

"I didn't know him, but I always liked the look of what FVK were about," explains Will, his arm today draped over the shoulder of the vocalist he now considers a pal. "I grew up with bands like The Nerve Agents, AFI and Ink & Dagger – these spooky hardcore bands – and I love My Chemical Romance, so it was good to see a band that had the sort of aesthetic I like and have a cool message. I thought I'd go over and say hello…" So, that's what he did – and the rest, as they say, is history.

"I actually found an Our Time Down Here CD in my flat a few weeks ago," Kier suddenly says loudly, breaking the air of wistfulness.

"Really?!" replies Will, sounding genuinely touched.

"Yeah, it made a great coaster!"

And while the duo's explosion of laughter disrupts the pictures they're posing for, the story highlights the unspoken kinship the two shared before they'd even met – something they share with their respective bands' fanbases through heartfelt, honest music and live shows that provide an environment for like-minded people to convene. But how did this all begin?

Just a couple of hours later, Will and Kier are ensconced in a nearby pub. Despite sitting at a wooden table of Game Of Thrones proportions, they're pressed together as conspiratorially as they were during the earlier photoshoot; their matching dark garments blurring the lines of where one starts and the other begins – transforming them into something of a black mass. And having chatted about everything from their interests (the history of the London Underground for Will; astrophysics for Kier) to recent good news, they start reminiscing about where they've both come from and its relationship with what their bands are doing now.

"I come from a hardcore punk background," says Will. "It was a massive influence on my life, because I was a *really* weird kid; I had no mates growing up and was a lot more effeminate than the other boys at school. I found all my friends going to these gigs, enjoying the power of being there together. Suddenly I was meeting people that I could talk to about things like politics, vegetarianism, veganism and sexuality."

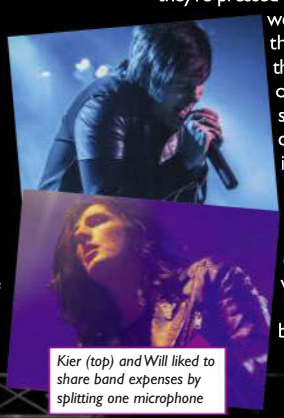
"The first time I found a 'community' was with My Chemical Romance," says Kier. "Prior to that I just listened to anything that appealed to me, musically and aesthetically, from David Bowie to the Sex Pistols; from Wham! to rockabilly. When the early days of emo arrived, that was the first time that I thought, 'There's something going on here…'"

"I agree," says Will. "Pop-punk had always felt like a movement rather than a community, and when you go to things like Warped Tour, you see loads of kids into loads of different sorts of music and they all have a common thread from being involved with the 'alternative scene', but it's more vague. I've always wanted something more specific and direct."

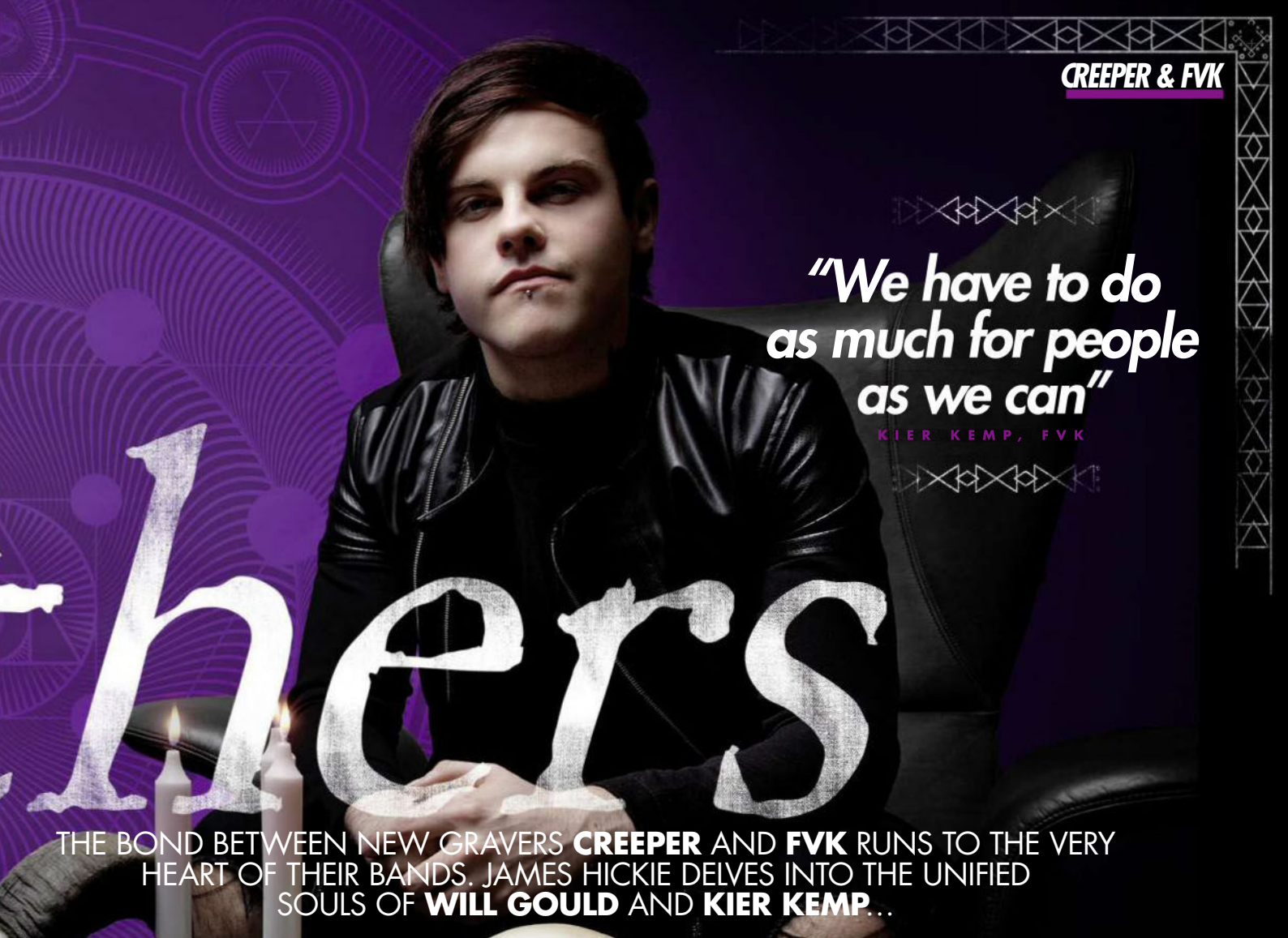
So, were you both consciously *trying* to emulate that community aspect in your respective bands?

"Yes and no," says Kier. "Nearly everything we've done – and I *hate* to use this word – is *organic*. Because we've been self-sufficient for most of our career – founding our own label [Goremount Records] and doing stuff independently – we quickly got a strong sense of how important our audience is."

"And, of course, you've got The Obsidian Bond,



Kier (top) and Will liked to share band expenses by splitting one microphone



"We have to do as much for people as we can"

KIER KEMP, FVK

-hers

THE BOND BETWEEN NEW GRAVERS **CREEPER** AND **FVK** RUNS TO THE VERY HEART OF THEIR BANDS. JAMES HICKIE DELVES INTO THE UNIFIED SOULS OF **WILL GOULD** AND **KIER KEMP**...

which is the perfect illustration of that," jumps in Will, referring to FVK's online fan network.

"With that we [FVK] thought: 'What would have been a convenient way to connect with people that I know share a common interest?'" Kier begins. "So, we thought, 'Let's have a place we can all be together.' It's a way to nurture that audience, because they give you *everything*. I've seen the world because of these people, and I've been given the privilege of doing all these amazing things."

Will nods in approval. "It's in our blood," he says proudly. "The whole idea that we grew up with is that there's no barrier between crowd and band. The band is only as good as the audience that comes to see them. The kids who come to see our show will go off and be in bands when they're older – they're me 10 years ago."

So, you want to be rockstars of the people?

"I feel uncomfortable with the term 'rockstar' – that was never anything I liked the idea of," replies Will. "I never saw, say, David Bowie as a rockstar; I saw him as an artist who spoke to me as an individual."

"We toured with a band – who shall remain nameless – that had *that* [rockstar] attitude," remembers Kier. "Witnessing that was a real reminder that we need to maintain a down-to-earth mindset."

Are there parameters to your obligations to fans?

"There's a certain degree to which I'm putting stuff into my music that I wish someone had articulated to me," says Will. "What I say to people is: when you're feeling beat up, tweet me, I'm probably only watching The X-Files and I *will* tweet you back – even if it's a stupid picture or something."

"The most important thing is to put out a positive message," says Kier. "We've just got to be real and do as much for people as we can."

"If that bloke over there wanted my help now," says Will, pointing to a man nursing a pint across the room, "I'd talk to him about whatever he needed to."

Despite not having to provide a kindly ear for anyone in the pub, speaking to Will and Kier, you get the sense that even if they weren't in bands, they'd still be trying to give a voice to those who needed one. And while the pair might be diverging at this point in their careers – last year's mini-album, Bruises, saw FVK stepping away from the world of 'Grandomina', while Creeper, ironically, are updating their concept relating to Peter Pan with their The Stranger EP – they still have one key thing that will unite them until death: they both make music they love for people they love even more. And who could ask any more than that?

FVK TOUR THE UK IN MARCH – SEE THE GIG GUIDE FOR INFORMATION. CREEPER'S THE STRANGER EP IS OUT NOW VIA ROADRUNNER RECORDS

FEARLESS VAMPIRE KREEPERS

AS **BATMAN** AND **SUPERMAN** PREPARE TO FACE OFF, **WILL** AND **KIER** IMAGINE A COLLISION OF **CREEPER** AND **FVK**'S POWERS...

WILL: "I think that we're cut from the same cloth, so I think we could easily join forces. Kier's hair looks like it has some sort of special powers, so I'd want that. I'd also want his voice. He consistently hits those notes and my voice always seems to deplete. Hang on – this doesn't sound very superhero-esque, does it? More like an episode of First Dates..."

KIER: "I would *rather* be the Batman of the dynamic, but if I were to sit down and think realistically about it, then I'd have to admit that Will is the Batman of the dynamic. I think it would be fantastic to join up! Powers-wise, I would want Will's lyrical ability; lyrics are something that I struggle with."

PHOTOS: PAUL HARRIES, JAY WENNINGTON

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LIVES

KERRANG! TOUR 2016

UNI GREAT HALL, CARDIFF. 11.02.16

WITH: SUM 41, FRANK CARTER & THE RATTLESNAKES, ROAM, BITERS

KKKKK

FOUR OF ROCK'S FINEST GIVE CARDIFF A FAT LIP ON 2016'S KERRAYZIEST TOUR

RATINGS
KKKKK = CLASSIC
KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD
KK = AVERAGE
K = POOR

Music by Sum 41, hair by Dragon Ball Z

THERE'S A feeling of redemption running through the booking of the Kerrang! Tour in 2016. And about the tour itself. Yes, those good ol' boys in The Blackout can rest easy, we won't be needing them this year. Because last night in Dublin, four years after their minutes-to-lift-off cancellation of co-headlining duties in 2012, Sum 41 made it to the stage in the headliner's spot. But more about them in due course. Before we come to that, there are more demons to slay; more expectations to confound. Because everyone on this bill, this eclectic ensemble of rock talent, has something to prove.

Redemption. For Biters, this is validation that what the Atlanta four-piece are doing is worthy and righteous. For within a rock scene so preoccupied with shaving off the edges and making itself presentable, the Georgians stick out like a wart on the arse of a pedicured poodle. Led by singer Tuk Smith, a man who has seemingly headed out to a fancy dress party dressed as every member of '70s glam bangers The Sweet at once, there's an argument that his band might not only be a good band, but an important one. Best song Dreams Don't Die is akin to a great lost Replacements song, and suggests there's more to come from them than just classic rock strut.

Redemption. For ROAM, this will follow in the days to come. Tonight the Eastbourne pop-punks are plagued by poor sound and – in truth – being billed post-Biters. Both are factors out of Alex Costello and his boys' control. Yet there's more than enough unhinged passion on show tonight to explain away the buzz that's surrounded them ever since they appeared on our radar this time last year. Head Rush recalls Funeral For A Friend at their most poppy, too, which is never ever a bad thing.

Redemption. For Frank Carter… well, where to start? Because tonight the former Gallows singer, as he will likely be forever known, is visual proof that the Watford Wolf – which is something we're going to keep calling him until it sticks – is back at the top of the pile. He knows it, too, interspersing his traditional barbs of caustic wit with sincere appreciation, for still being welcome here and for people still giving a shit. Devil Inside Me explains why – diving into the crowd after just two songs, nothing and nobody is a more fun iteration of heavy rock right now than Frank Carter, current singer of The Rattlesnakes (a moniker that, if he keeps tonight's form up, *just might* replace his status as former focal point of Gallows).

Redemption. Turned up to 11, it's Sum 41! And there's nothing about tonight's mighty, curfew-smashing headline set, that carries with it any shadow of the preceding years of substance abuse, critical illness, personal introspection and, sometimes, if we're being honest, fluctuating melodic quality control. The hits are all here, played brilliantly (the reacquisition of guitarist Dave 'Brownsound' Baksh greatly helps) as is a three-song Metallica medley. But what's more startling to see is singer Deryck Whibley, legs like pipe-cleaners, heart like a bison's, bounding around like the rockstar it seemed we had been robbed of.

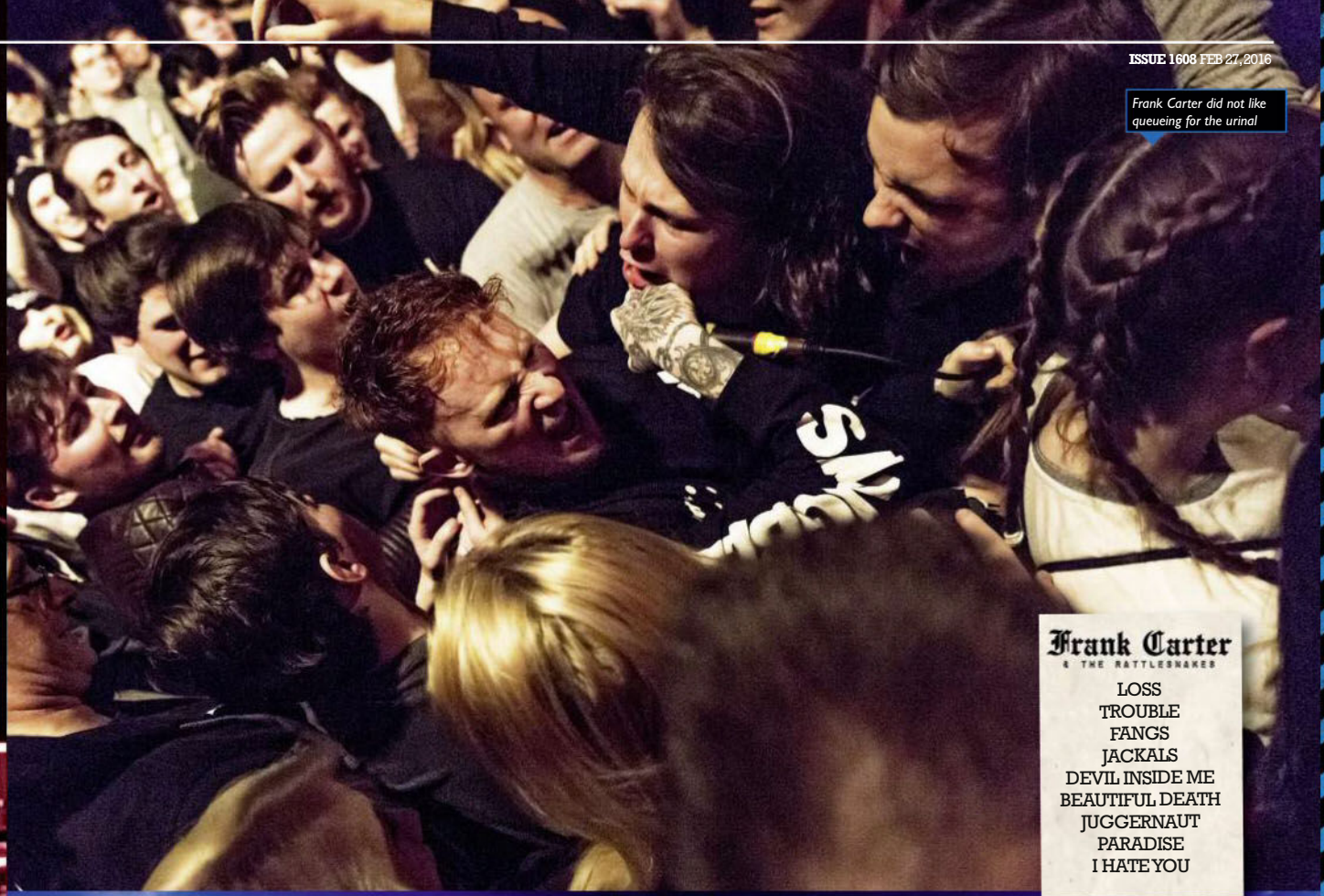
It would be easy to say that closer Fat Lip sounds like a redemption song. But, in truth, there have been many of them, all night long.

SUM 41

OVER MY HEAD (BETTER OFF DEAD)
MOTIVATION
THE HELL SONG
SKUMFUK
WE'RE ALL TO BLAME
UNDERCLASS HERO
MAKES NO DIFFERENCE
SCREAMING BLOODY MURDER
NOTHING ON MY BACK
PLEDGESONG
SICK OF EVERYONE
RHYTHMS
WALKING DISASTER
HANDLE THIS
WITH ME
WELCOME TO HELL
STILL WAITING

IN TOO DEEP
THANKS FOR NOTHING
FAT LIP

WORDS: JAMES McMAHON **PHOTOS:** ANDY GALLAGHER



Frank Carter did not like queueing for the urinal

Frank Carter & THE RATTLESNAKES

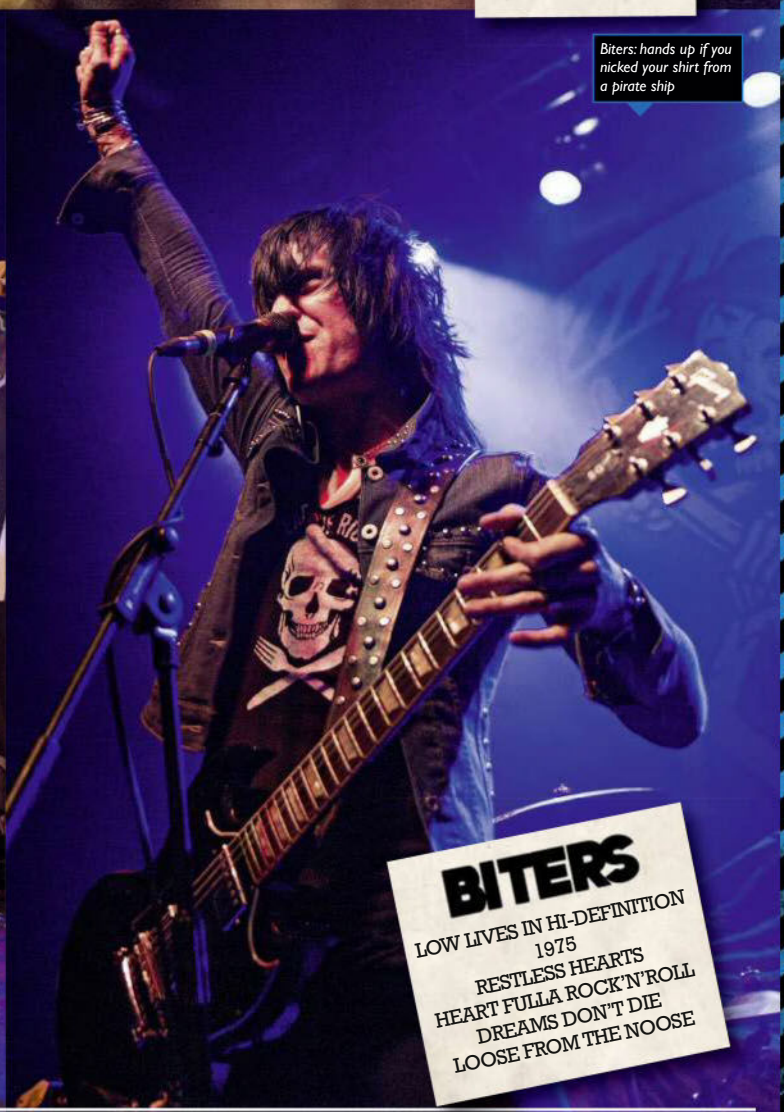
LOSS
TROUBLE
FANGS
JACKALS
DEVIL INSIDE ME
BEAUTIFUL DEATH
JUGGERNAUT
PARADISE
I HATE YOU

ROAM

WARNING SONG
OVER YOUR HEAD
HOPELESS CASE
LEAVING NOTICE
DEADWEIGHT
HEAD RUSH

ROAM were doing really badly in the high-five lessons

Biters: hands up if you nicked your shirt from a pirate ship



BITERS

LOW LIVES IN HI-DEFINITION
1975
RESTLESS HEARTS
HEART FULLA ROCK'N'ROLL
DREAMS DON'T DIE
LOOSE FROM THE NOOSE

ALL TIME LOW

PLUS: GOOD CHARLOTTE, AGAINST THE CURRENT

O2 ARENA, LONDON. 11.02.16

KKKK

THE MEN FROM MARYLAND UPSTAGE THEIR HEROES AT LONDON'S BIGGEST ARENA

WORDS: NICK RUSKELL **PHOTOS:** PAUL HARRIES

"GOOD CHARLOTTE are my idols," announces Alex Gaskarth, from the end of a catwalk leading out into a packed O2 Arena. "I can't believe we've got them on tour with us. This is a dream come true."

This is what's called the changing of the guard. All Time Low are already massive – this isn't even their first time here, having co-headlined with You Me At Six last Valentine's Day – but the point really rams itself home tonight. As idols become support, and students become masters, All Time Low assert themselves as one of the biggest pop-punk bands in the world. And to celebrate, they've brought enough lights, explosions and flames to make Rammstein raise an eyebrow.

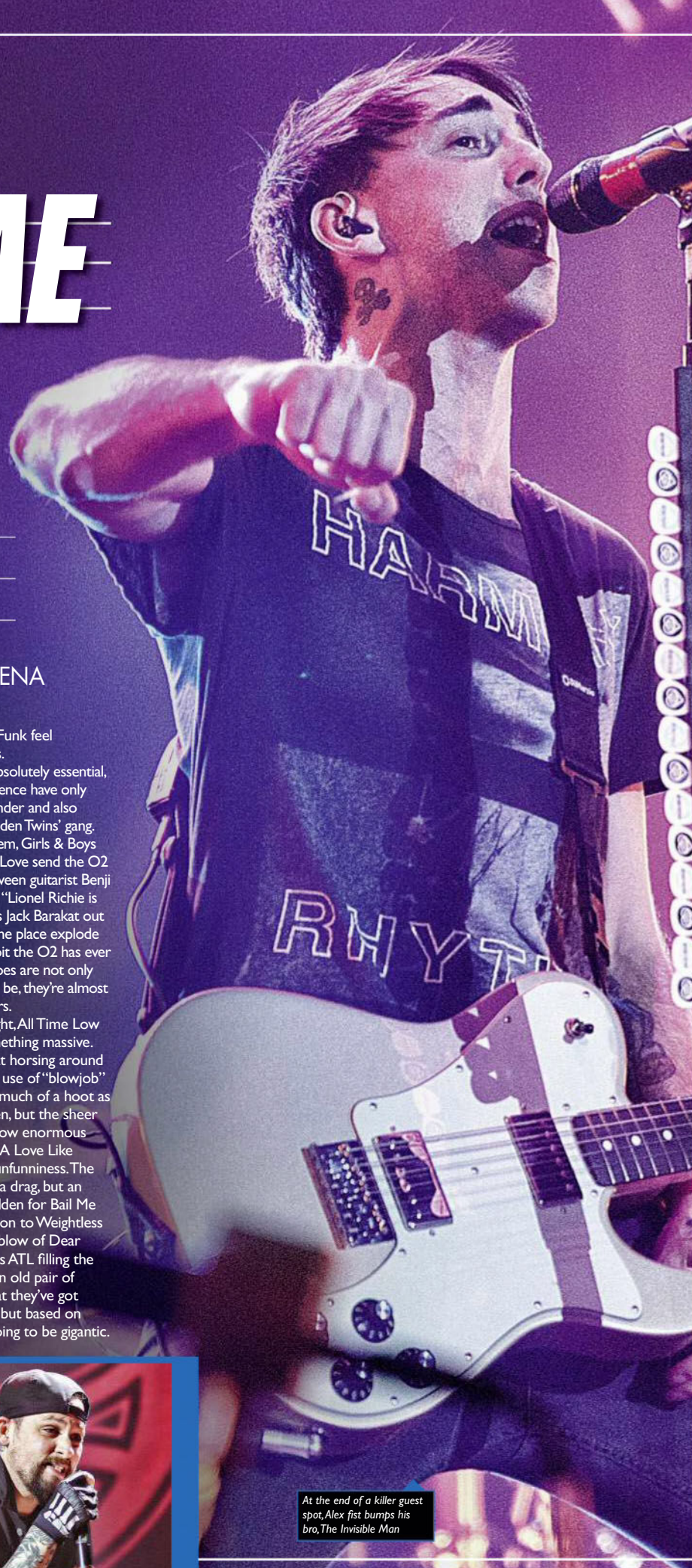
Against The Current get the evening's ball rolling. Their energetic pop-rock shines brightly in an arena setting, although their own stuff is good enough to make their cover of Uptown Funk feel surplus to requirements.

Good Charlotte are absolutely essential, though. Five years of absence have only made the heart grow fonder and also vastly improved the Madden Twins' gang. Refreshed hits The Anthem, Girls & Boys and new tune Makeshift Love send the O2 Arena bananas. And between guitarist Benji Madden's admission that "Lionel Richie is my father", bringing ATL's Jack Barakat out for a selfie, and making the place explode with "the biggest mosh-pit the O2 has ever seen", the returning heroes are not only better than they used to be, they're almost better than the headliners.

Almost. Because tonight, All Time Low have morphed into something massive. The sight of Jack Barakat horsing around in a blonde wig, and the use of "blowjob" as a punchline aren't as much of a hoot as they may once have been, but the sheer scale of the show and how enormous Backseat Serenade and A Love Like War sound dwarf any unfunniness. The acoustic mid-section is a drag, but an appearance by Joel Madden for Bail Me Out, the bonkers reaction to Weightless and the final knockout blow of Dear Maria, Count Me In sees ATL filling the O2 as comfortably as an old pair of slippers. We dunno what they've got planned for Download, but based on tonight's showing, it's going to be gigantic.

Chrissy Costanza, trapped in a glass picture-box of emotion

Indigestion: it's never a good moment



At the end of a killer guest spot, Alex fist bumps his bro, The Invisible Man

Strange, it's not often you see Gene Simmons dressing down like that...

STAR SHOUT!

ALEX GASKARTH

(ALL TIME LOW, VOCALS/GUITAR)

HOW WAS THAT FOR YOU, SIR?
"It was amazing! It was a major step forward for us, and we couldn't be happier with the way it all went down."

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO HAVE YOUR HEROES GOOD CHARLOTTE ON THIS TOUR?
"It's really cool that we get to keep having these moments that come around full circle. I said it onstage, but I remember being front row for a Good Charlotte concert in Maryland when we had only just started the band. There's something incredibly special about being able to play shows with those guys now. I've got so much love for the Good Charlotte fam!"

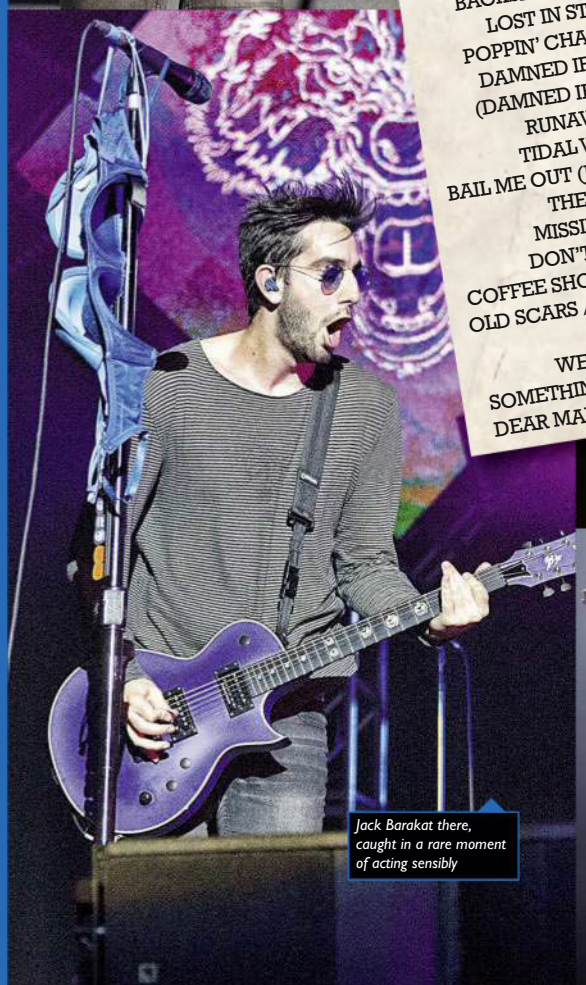
DOWNLOAD'S NEXT. ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE ON RAMMSTEIN WITH THE PYRO?
"(*Laughs*) I don't think we could ever hold a candle – pun intended – to Rammstein's pyro. They're next-level when it comes to that kind of thing. I just hope we can make them proud."

ALL TIME LOW

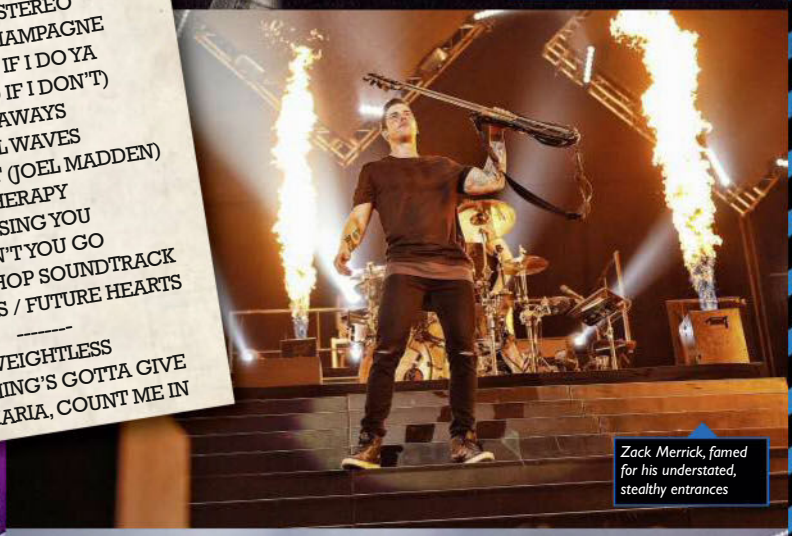
O2 ARENA, LONDON. 11.02.16

KIDS IN THE DARK
A LOVE LIKE WAR
DANCING WITH A WOLF
BACKSEAT SERENADE
LOST IN STEREO
POPPIN' CHAMPAGNE
DAMNED IF I DO YA
(DAMNED IF I DON'T)
RUNAWAYS
TIDAL WAVES
BAIL ME OUT (JOEL MADDEN)
THERAPY
MISSING YOU
DON'T YOU GO
COFFEE SHOP SOUNDTRACK
OLD SCARS / FUTURE HEARTS

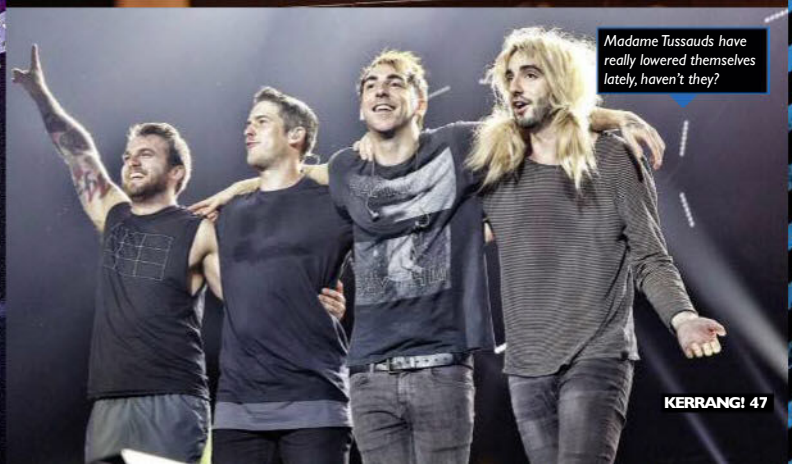
WEIGHTLESS
SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE
DEAR MARIA, COUNT ME IN



Jack Barakat there, caught in a rare moment of acting sensibly



Zack Merrick, famed for his understated, stealthy entrances



Madame Tussauds have really lowered themselves lately, haven't they?

F1 driver Daniel Ricciardo: "Taxi's here, Winston…"

Winston McCall: "HADOUKEN!"

STAR SHOUT!

WINSTON McCALL
(PARKWAY DRIVE, VOCALS)

SO, THAT'S A LOT OF FIRE YOU'VE GOT WITH YOU ON THIS TOUR, INNIT?
"Yeah! We've got more pyro than ever on this tour. It's pretty cool. It's awesome having all the flames coming up during certain moments of songs. It feels great!"

HOW WAS IT PLAYING SONGS OFF YOUR NEW ALBUM, IRE?
"It's really fun. We've got a back catalogue that people love – which is rad – but for us to be able to play five or six songs off the new album and still have people saying, 'Why didn't you play A Deathless Song?' or, 'Why didn't you play Fractures?' is cool! Normally, it's people asking for old stuff!"

PARKWAY DRIVE

PLUS: BURY TOMORROW, THY ART IS MURDER

O2 ACADEMY BRIXTON, LONDON. 12.02.16

KKKKK

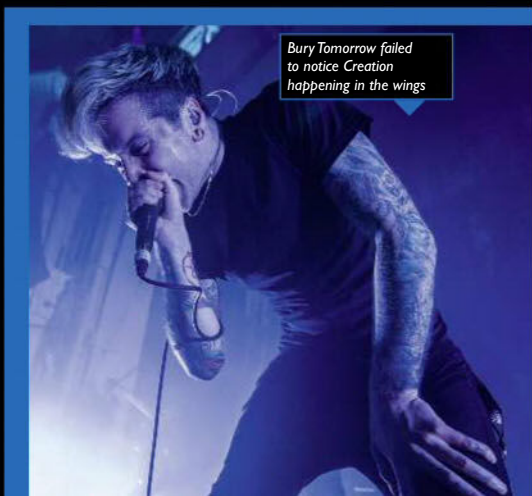
WORDS: TOM SHEPHERD **PHOTOS:** ANDREW TIMMS

AUSSIE METALCORE HEROES HEAT THINGS UP IN LONDON

PARKWAY DRIVE are from New South Wales, Australia. That's around 10,500 miles and about nine in-flight movies away from Brixton. And while such introductions may feel redundant for a band that have been rattling the mortar in-between the bricks of venues in this country for 10 years, tonight it needs repeating. Because this evening feels like a homecoming, and the pangs of warmth felt through the room at seeing the band create extravagant chaos of this scale make it easy to forget that the group are so far from their own front doors.

Openers and fellow Australians Thy Art Is Murder may have seen longtime vocalist CJ McMahon quit in December, but stand-in Nick Arthur from Molotov Solution does just fine in getting his throat around the bloodthirsty growls that lead their bulldozer charge. Sandwiched between tonight's Aussie contingent are Southampton's Bury Tomorrow, who lasso the attention of a now-full room with their fearless assault on the big stage, smashing through tracks from new album Earthbound with impressive control.

"I've spent about a third of my life up on this stage. I've spent 10 years coming to this country. If it wasn't for you, you'd have a very different person up onstage," says Parkway's Winston McCall in his soft Australian twang. The magnetic frontman allows the emotion to spill over once or twice, but elsewhere he tenses and writhes like a lightening rod for menace. The bravado of new record Ire colours a set featuring stadium-sized pyrotechnics and even guest vocals from Formula One driver – and super-fan – Daniel Ricciardo on Deliver Me. There really is nothing tonight that sucks, and Parkway Drive lock a vice-like grip on a crowd, and a country, who have fully taken this band to their hearts.



Bury Tomorrow failed to notice Creation happening in the wings

GREG DULLI

UNION CHAPEL, LONDON. 09.02.16

KKKK

AFGHAN WHIGS' BARD OF DARKNESS DELIVERS SOLO SERMON IN A LONDON CHURCH

"I HEARD this song as a kid before I had done drugs," Greg Dulli says with a sly grin before slipping into hazy soul ballad Strawberry Letter 23. "But after I heard it… I felt like I *had* done drugs." Greg's well-documented cocaine addiction may be in his past, but his songs with American alt. rock legends The Afghan Whigs and The Twilight Singers still carry a struggle between the sacred and profane, the giddy highs of love wrestling with guilt and addiction's crippling lows. Tonight, playing with a tiny band in front of the Union Chapel's pulpit, to a full congregation, there seems no more appropriate setting to air his pulpy songbook. The evening starts on a high with the yearning rush of Underneath The Waves and a tender acoustic stroll through Bonnie Brae aimed at the heavens, before diving into the mire with Early Today (And Later That Night)'s waking nightmare. Stripped down to Greg's seething, smokey wail with dramatic guitar and violin embellishments, the desperation coursing through these songs cuts deep, reaching a peak as Greg frantically strums and howls, *'I got love for sale, come on, get some before it gets stale*', on Forty Dollars. Ultimately, Greg's light side wins out with Summer's Kiss building to ecstatic heights and a dreamy acoustic rendition of David Bowie's Modern Love closing the evening. But even in God's house, it remains true that no-one does it with more classy sin than Greg Dulli.

JAMES MACKINNON

BRING ME THE HORIZON

02 ACADEMY BRIXTON, LONDON. 17.02.16

KKKKK

OLI SYKES PROVES HE'S GOT NO TABLE MANNERS AT LONDON AWARDS SHOW

ONE SONG. That's all it takes for Bring Me The Horizon to go from deserved award-winners among a crowd of other award-winners to the most talked-about band in the country. While playing Happy Song to some of the biggest names in showbiz, Oli Sykes goes rogue, jumping off the stage and onto a table. A table which just so happens to belong to Coldplay. We've all seen the videos online now – Oli on the table, Oli tipping the table over, the looks of delight on the onlookers' faces, spilt drinks. Then you've got to judge Chris Martin's face to work out what's going through his head as this oik in a hoodie gets all up in his shit. "Great, very rock'n'roll," was his summary afterwards. "We first came here when we were kids and we sat where Bring Me The Horizon were sitting, next to the big bands." Ouch! But then, you've got to do something a bit bigger than normal to stick out when you're in a room full of people too famous to care who you are. Some reckoned it was some sort of revenge for Coldplay using the Buddhist Flower of Life – as seen on the cover of BMTH's Sempiternal – as the artwork for their recent A Head Full Of Dreams record.

SHOCKED: Singer Martin

Coldplay attacked at awards

COLDPLAY were handed a lesson in Rock 'n Roll when a rival band trashed their table at a top awards bash in front of their lead singer Chris Martin.

Full story: Page 5

Nah, it's because if you're gonna do it, you might as well do it to the table of the biggest band in the place – and four nights at Wembley Stadium this summer is not to be sniffed at. And, as Oli says afterwards, Coldplay's table was nearer than that of late-Beatle John Lennon's widow Yoko Ono. But whatever, other than the carnage at the Kerrang! Awards every year, we haven't had a good bit of high-profile rock'n'roll misbehaviour like this since Billie-Joe Armstrong reacted to being told he had one minute left to play at the 2012 iHeartRadio Music Awards by smashing his guitar in front of stunned organisers. Screw whatever award they won, being The Band Who Smashed Coldplay's Shit is worth all the gongs in the world.

WORDS: JOHN TRUMAN

ESCAPE THE FATE

PLUS: FVK, NEW YEARS DAY

ELECTRIC BALLROOM, LONDON. 16.02.16

KKKK

ROCK'S ODD COUPLE SHARE THE LOVE IN KNOCKOUT DOUBLE BILL

WORDS: AMIT SHARMA **PHOTO:** IAN COLLINS

Hey, Ash, do you reckon you could smile a bit more? Can't really tell how you're feeling…

IT'S THE last night of Escape The Fate's Hate Me Tour, and suddenly everything cuts out mid-set – leaving the band stranded for a nail-biting 10 minutes. "Fuck you, Dave," snarls frontman Craig Mabbitt at their soundman. "What a dickhead… he spilled beer on the desk." Everyone is wondering if Dave's going to have a job in the morning as the Las Vegas metal mob try to pick up momentum and finish what they started.

The evening starts well, though. New Years Day pummel the crowd with the dark riffs and breakdowns of Other Side and Malevolence. FVK, meanwhile, indulge in theatrics of a very different kind, proving themselves twice as good as they used to be with new song Like Bruises.

Before any beer gets trickling into the soundboard, Escape The Fate are just as cocky and swaggering as you'd expect. Opener, Just A Memory fuses virtuoso guitars with a chorus that sounds like every Linkin Park song mashed together. Later, Ash Costello lends her voice to Ashley, getting cosy with Craig as they serenade each other with gooey love in their eyes. Against all odds – precious time lost thanks to sound-gate and a PA turned off due to curfew – the evening can be chalked up as a slightly messy triumph. But sometimes, a little unpredictability and flying by the seat of your pants is just what the doctor ordered.

STAR SHOUT!

CRAIG MABBITT

(ESCAPE THE FATE, VOCALS)

& ASH COSTELLO

(NEW YEARS DAY, VOCALS)

SO, WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE SOUND?

CRAIG: "I think something happened to the soundboard and it reset all our sounds for the show! It derailed us a little bit, but we didn't miss any songs out."

YOU TWO SANG ASHLEY TOGETHER. IS THE ROMANCE FOR REAL?

ASH: "Now, that would be telling! It does make sense, though – Ashley's my name and the song's *about* me. It's a special song."

CRAIG: "You should worship each other in a relationship. That's our understanding, she worships me and I worship her!"

ASH: "Shut *up*! When I sing Ashley, everyone else in the room is gone, there's just Craig."

REVIEWS

RATINGS
KKKKK = CLASSIC
KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD
KK = AVERAGE
K = POOR

TONIGHT ALIVE

LIMITLESS *(EASY LIFE/SONY RED)*

KKK

IT'S TONIGHT ALIVE, FOLKS, BUT NOT AS WE KNOW THEM, ON ALBUM NUMBER THREE

SPEAKING TO K! last year, Jenna McDougall candidly appraised her craft by observing that "writers are selfish". These are words that come to mind listening to Tonight Alive's third album. You see, the danger with heralding a creative sea change – as Jenna has done with her many comments about how liberating Limitless has been – is that you've got to make sure this new tide carries listeners somewhere they want to go. Because listeners are selfish, too, and have certain expectations of their favourite bands. And, while seconds into opening track To Be Free they'll have no doubt as to where things are heading, quite what they'll make of the whole thing remains to be seen. Limitless could well be the year's most divisive record – but is it for the right reasons?

This album is radically different from its predecessor, 2013's The Other Side. While the characteristic ingredients are admittedly in place (earnest lyrics, natty hooks, a wealth of sizeable choruses), as Oxygen's chorus breezes in, you're acutely aware that an element is missing: namely rock. The walloping guitars that powered Thank You & Goodnight and Lonely Girl make almost no appearance here. And while there's nothing wrong with evolving the template and colouring it with pop (hello, Fall Out Boy), when it's done on a scale like this, you do have to wonder if it's a step too far.

This serves to make the many peaks and troughs very frustrating. The organic How Does It Feel? is a fantastic bit of classic TA; while Drive, a sunny, carefree bit of breezy pop, acts as a thudding reminder of just what Tonight Alive 2016 are doing. Indeed, the '*Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, no, no, no, no*' refrain pretty much sums up how half-and-half opinion on this will be split.

It's not all bad, but Limitless is often thwarted by its execution rather than its ambition. It illustrates that while shooting for the stratosphere is admirable, if done wrong, you can burn up in the atmosphere. Perhaps if the change had been done in several moves, rather than one, it would be easier to swallow. It could well be a grower, but Limitless is an album that sometimes feels like the work of a different band. Only time will tell if Tonight Alive will be having the last laugh.

DOWNLOAD: To Be Free, How Does It Feel?.
FOR FANS OF: Paramore, PVRIS.
JAMES HICKIE

"POP-PUNK FANS MIGHT HAVE TROUBLE ADJUSTING"

JENNA McDOUGALL

THE INSIDER

JENNA McDOUGALL

(VOCALS)

DO YOU FEEL LIMITLESS IS A MASSIVE STEP AWAY FROM THE TONIGHT ALIVE WE SAW ON THE OTHER SIDE?

"Sonically, yes, I think that it's definitely a departure, but the evolution came very naturally to us. I think fans who have a connection to our lyrics and to our message will definitely feel it. Fans who were attached to the idea of Tonight Alive being in a scene, or attached to the idea that we were ever a pop-punk band, might have trouble adjusting, though."

DID YOU ALWAYS INTEND TO CHANGE YOUR DIRECTION?

"I think it was 100 per cent natural. We were put in a position where we came to a fork in the road where we could have easily made this conscious decision. The only conscious decision we made was to control what we wrote. We were writing things that scared us, like To Be Free and Drive, which we didn't understand. We thought, 'Maybe we should write this and give it to another artist or do a solo project and release this song.' But then we were like, 'Wait a minute, why are we selling ourselves short? Why don't we go down the road with the most natural thing that is happening?'"

WITH THIS BEING THE THIRD ALBUM, WAS THE PRESSURE ON?

"The pressure came internally, from us. I think we really had to learn how to respect our instruments and love what we are doing in a new way. The greatest pressure was to write something that was really meaningful."

TRACK BY TRACK

DESTRÖYER 666

WILDFIRE *(SEASON OF MIST)*

KKKK

AUSTRALIAN ANTICHRISTS BLAZE FURIOUSLY ON RIDICULOUSLY METAL FIFTH ALBUM

1 *TRAITOR*
Deströyer 666 are not a band for whom wimping out, playing soft or wearing anything not fashioned out of leather is an option. Infamous in the metal underground for the ferocity of their thrashing attack and the size of frontman K.K. Warslut's middle finger, their name has become a byword for antisocial metal that's played with violence and force, and makes no apologies for anything. Oh look, Traitor is the exemplar of this, kicking the album off like Slayer's tearaway younger brother.

2 *LIVE AND BURN*
Oh yeah, the other thing about Deströyer 666 is their ability to write catchy bits that sound like battle cries. Exhibit A: this bit of Judas Priest-ish hooliganism.

3 *ARTIGLIO DEL DIAVOLO*
An instrumental. One whose scything solos you're too busy throwing shapes and gurning along to to notice there's no singing.

4 *HOUNDS AT YA BACK*
Another one with a catchy, shout-along chorus to bellow along to. Try to sing it – or even just listen to it – without punching the air. You can't. You can't.

5 *HYMN TO DIONYSUS*
Dionysus, the Greek god of the vine, grape harvest, winemaking, wine, ritual madness, religious ecstasy and theatre. Basically, drinking and gorging yourself, for which an aggressive blast of violent speed is a perfect soundtrack.

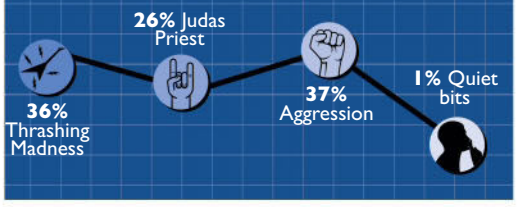
6 *WILDFIRE*
Again, you can't not punch the air to this. All part of the magic of D666's infusion of Priest, Maiden and Motörhead into their scalding black metal mix.

7 *WHITE LINE FEVER*
As fast and snarling as you'd expect a crazed song about go-faster pharmaceuticals to be.

8 *DIE YOU FUCKING PIG*
Hello? Best Song Title Of 2016 Judging Panel? Yeah, take the rest of the year off. Contest over. Really sums up the frustration of a Monday morning. Well done.

9 *TAMAM SHUD*
Closing with a moment of slight calm, this sweeping, atmospheric thunderer sees K.K. and his men surveying the battlefield after they've covered it in blood. If you want a metal record that's all fist and no pissing around, Wildfire is violent perfection.

THIS ALBUM IS MOSTLY MADE UP OF...



WORDS: NICK RUSKELL

CAN'T SWIM

DEATH DESERVES A NAME *(PURE NOISE)*

KKKK

NEW JERSEY POST-HARDCORE DEBUTANTS GIVE A MASTERCLASS IN AGGRESSION

CAN'T SWIM'S Chris 'Krier' Loporto started out as a drummer. And while that fact may prove no more than a footnote in the eventual history of this New Jersey group, that this is the singer's first foray as a guitar-wielding frontman feels important on the band's excellent debut EP. Because Death Deserves A Name's post-hardcore gravity derives not from particularly intricate instrumentation, but from its masterful arrangement of aggression in all its varying shades. From the tight-lunged opener, Your Clothes, in which Chris howls over a menacing bassline and short-round bursts of guitars, these five tracks are a constant back and forth of heavy and soft, with the band operating a level of catharsis usually reserved for the shrink's couch. An astounding intro.

DOWNLOAD: Right Choice.

FOR FANS OF: letlive., Beartooth.

TOM SHEPHERD

ALL THEM WITCHES

DYING SURFER MEETS HIS MAKER *(NEW WEST)*

KKK

NASHVILLE PSYCH-ROCKERS GO WITH THE FLOW ON ALBUM NUMBER THREE

IN LEWIS Carroll's Through The Looking Glass, Alice was offered jam tomorrow and jam yesterday but never jam today. That wouldn't suit All Them Witches, who like to jam *all* the time – even when recording an album. There are moments where they sound relatively focused, but there are others where they meander like stun-bombed sheep; El Centro, for example, wraps eight minutes of instrumental soundscapes around a central riff that sounds like a sludge-metal version of Molly's Chambers by Kings Of Leon. The songs ebb and flow through hazy psychedelia, stoner rock, bluesy acoustics and cinematic passages. It's an interesting trip, if one that occasionally sees ATW stray too far into self-indulgence.

DOWNLOAD: Dirt Preachers.

FOR FANS OF: Baroness, Radio Moscow.

PAUL TRAVERS

BOMBUS

REPEAT UNTIL DEATH *(CENTURY MEDIA)*

KKKK

GROOVY SWEDISH METALLERS MAKE THE SOUNDTRACK TO THE END OF YOUR WORLD

THEY MAY share a name with a common bumblebee, but Bombus have plenty more than one sting in their tail. The Gothenburg brutes sound at ease on their third full-length album, thumping out confident grooves that sound like somewhere between Mastodon and Black Sabbath. Tracks like Rust and Deadweight sink into one another without warning, while opener Eyes On The Price typifies the '70s sounds that make up the record's second half. With vocals that boom between labyrinth-like guitars and thudding bass, Repeat Until Death is loud and dominant without demanding too much in return.

DOWNLOAD: Deadweight.

FOR FANS OF: Mastodon, Krokodil.

JESSICA BRIDGEMAN

LYRIC OF THE WEEK

'My insides pulled front to back / Nothing is solved in this act'. In 2016, Anthrax may well be the best of The Big Four. But we still have no idea why singer Joey Belladonna thinks reversing his guts is a good way in which to solve a problem.

BAND: Anthrax
SONG: For All Kings
ALBUM: For All Kings

SLEEVE OF THE WEEK

The new Rob Zombie album is called – wait for it – The Electric Warlock Acid Witch Satanic Orgy Celebration Dispenser. The sleeve, naturally, is just as much of a psychedelic jumble of evil stuff and bad-trip nightmares. And clashing colours.

VIDEO OF THE WEEK

GHOSTS, PVRIS

PVRIS have decided that the best way to visualise the ghost-y aspect of the song Ghosts is to become ghosts. Easy. But no bedsheets with eye-holes cut out for Lynn Gunn. Oh no. Her and her bandmates have become flickering, creepy spirits normally seen in Japanese horror flicks. Ta for the night terrors, guys…

ENTOMBED A.D.

DEAD DAWN *(CENTURY MEDIA)*

KKK

LEGENDARY SWEDISH DEATHSTERS CONTINUE DOWN THE LEFT-HAND PATH

BRUTALITY CAN be a beautiful thing. And we're not talking about that blood-on-a-canvas arthouse crap. We're talking the hammer-in-skull stuff that Entombed (now Entombed A.D.) have doled out for almost three decades. This, their 11th album, spectacularly maintains the abattoir-line consistency. Death-metal outsiders with as much appetite for punk mischief as thick-necked power, the Stockholm quartet pack their vertebrae-shattering death'n'roll nuggets – from the near-industrial title-track to manic sludger Silent Assassin – with enough bile and swagger that they seem like an undead Elvis at times. Watain frontman Erik Danielsson contributes strikingly morbid artwork ghoulish enough to sit with their best, and the pervasively putrefactive atmospherics of the music only reinforce that graveyard embrace. For those about to rot, Entombed A.D. salute you.

DOWNLOAD: Down To Mars To Ride.

FOR FANS OF: Bloodbath, Grave.

SAM LAW

INGLORIOUS

INGLORIOUS *(ARISING EMPIRE)*

KKKK

CLASSIC ROCKERS GET THEIR MOJO WORKIN' ON GLORIOUS DEBUT ALBUM

FROM THE very first notes of album opener Until I Die, growing from a Deep Purple-esque organ drone into an explosively sleazy riff, you know by the stupid grin on your face that you're in classic rock territory. This is what Inglorious have running through their veins, in their hearts and probably for breakfast. And the fun doesn't stop there. The white-hot blues groove of Holy Water, Wake's dreamy acoustic ballad and the sticky prog solos of Inglorious showcase a tight band whose considerable chops channel the greats. And, of course, you're never far from a rip-roaring chorus courtesy of Nathan James, who earned his stripes fronting the band of ex-Scorpion guitar wizard Uli Jon Roth and here could crumble mountains with his sky-scraping vocals. So, if you worship at the altar of classic rock, Inglorious will sanctify your ears perfectly.

DOWNLOAD: Inglorious.

FOR FANS OF: Deep Purple, Rival Sons.

JAMES MACKINNON

GINGER WILDHEART

YEAR OF THE FANCLUB *(ROUND RECORDS)*

KKKKK

FULL-TIME GEORDIE AND OCCASIONAL GENIUS HITS THE BULLSEYE ONCE AGAIN

WHEN GINGER emerged as a songwriter par excellence in the early 1990s with Geordie rockers The Wildhearts, his creativity centered on melody, energy and chaos. It was as youthful and temporary a triumvirate as can be found. The most fascinating and pleasing thing about the now-51-year-old's subsequent body of work is the fearlessness and panache with which he has sought new avenues for the headful of ideas that seem to constantly leak from him. Once a wasted rocker in the style of Dee Dee Ramone, on this exquisite and often wildly inventive album, Ginger bears closer resemblance to the brilliant and berserk innovator Frank Zappa. Still resplendent with airborne melodies and filled with flammable talent (not to mention customarily excellent song titles like Only Henry Rollins Can Save Us Now), Year Of The Fanclub is a triumph and delight of untamable boldness.

DOWNLOAD: El Mundo (Slow Fatigue), Only Henry Rollins Can Save Us Now.

FOR FANS OF: The Wildhearts, System Of A Down, Faith No More.

IAN WINWOOD

IF THERE'S one thing Las Vegas is known for, other than round-the-clock gambling and Elvis-themed wedding chapels, it's putting on a helluva show. The flamboyant and the theatrical are as ingrained in the town as they are in its inhabitants. That's how Sin City lads Imagine Dragons took their first steps towards becoming the grandstanding performers you see in **SMOKE + MIRRORS LIVE (KKKK)**, captured in Toronto in front of 15,000 fans, because as Dan Reynolds tells the crowd, "We love this city, we love the

ON THE STEREO

1 DEFTONES – PRAYERS/TRIANGLES
We see you, Deftones. We see you with your dreamy guitars and your beautiful heaviness. We see you. We see you.

2 SWMRS – FIGURING IT OUT
We've not had much 'Whoa-oah' going on lately. So, thanks for rectifying that, SWMRS. Nice one.

3 SIMPLE PLAN – OPINION OVERLOAD
And there we were expecting this to be all about Katie Hopkins' column in the Daily Mail. It's not. It's actually good…

4 DAXX & ROXANE – WRONG SIDE
This new Def Leppard song is aweso… Hold up, this ain't them! But it's just as big and shiny and rock-y.

5 DISCHARGE – NEW WORLD ORDER
The loudest punk band in the world are back! Prepare for deafness.

RORY INDIANA

RULING CLASS CROOKS *(SELF-RELEASED)*

KKKK

SHORT IN SIZE, MOUNTAINOUS IN SOUND, NOT FROM INDIANA, BUT GOOD ANYWAY

YOU'RE IN the abyss, crashing and catapulting through space. It's a warzone, a blizzard, a sci-fi thriller. Or are you simply listening to Brighton quartet Rory Indiana's latest EP? With bolting guitar riffs and piercingly thunderous drums, Ruling Class Crooks is about as anti-shoegazing as you can get. But amongst the lashings and thrashings of violent destruction croak the fragile lyrics of inner turmoil and emotion. Tune in to the vocals of this EP, and glide, glassy-eyed, through the ominous universe of their collective mind. As each track shuffles in pace and mood, we realise Rory are just like us. With fickle temperaments and destructive tendencies, the human mind can be a freakish place. Here's a disorientating trip through a brilliant one.

DOWNLOAD: Leave Me.
FOR FANS OF: Muse, Arcane Roots.
CECILIA DINWOODIE

ANVIL

ANVIL IS ANVIL *(SPV)*

KKK

TORONTO METAL HEROES CONTINUE TO PROVE THEY'RE MADE OF PURE STEEL

IT IS a very good thing that Canadian metallers Anvil were finally able to have a decent career in the wake of 2008's Anvil! The Story Of Anvil documentary. Not least because the quality of their output has gone up since. Such is the case with Anvil Is Anvil – it's got markedly better machine-gunning riffs than wilderness years albums like 1999's Speed Of Sound, although the anvil admiring itself in the mirror on the cover can't beat the Anvil-as-heavy-duty-agricultural-machinery sleeve of 2001's Plenty Of Power. Daggers And Rum is a rollocking tribute to pirates, while Zombie Apocalypse is a morbid stomper to party to. So, yes, 16 albums in, Anvil are still very much Anvil. And God bless 'em for it.

DOWNLOAD: Daggers And Rum.
FOR FANS OF: Judas Priest, Metallica.
NICK RUSKELL

Suicidal Tendencies
SUICIDAL TENDENCIES

(FRONTIER, 1983)

THE CROSSOVER ALBUM THAT BROUGHT RAP AND GUITARS TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME TO TERRIFYING EFFECT

AT THE start of the 1980s, when it came to music, everyone knew where they stood: metal was metal, punk was punk, and never the twain should meet. But then in 1983 Suicidal Tendencies unveiled their shape-shifting, genre-dodging debut album, Suicidal Tendencies, and, at the time at least, horrified pretty much everyone who heard it. So near-universal was this opprobrium that the influential punk magazine Flipside went so far as to label the 12-song set the worst album of the year.

But if it is true that he who laughs last laughs longest, then Suicidal Tendencies – and their principal songwriter, frontman and sole remaining member, Mike Muir – are today breathless with hysteria. From a standing start, the group's alarming mixture of maniacal punk and molten metal has meant that their grandly unfancied bow has become one of the most influential rock albums of the 20th century. What's more, equipped with an ear for melody, a fine line in gallows humour and a twitching sense of paranoia, 34 years after its original release, this boistrous set has stood the time – and is being opened up to a whole new audience thanks to their recent tour with Slipknot. Clever boys.

WHEN YOU WERE WRITING THE SONGS DID YOU REALISE JUST HOW TERRIFYING THEY WERE?

MIKE MUIR (*VOCALS*): "You say that, and I have to say thank you because, to me, that's such a compliment. You have to go back to the times, and music then is kind of like how it is now – it doesn't sell. Like now, back then there was just no point in being contrived; you just did what you did, and I didn't think people would hear the music anyhow. But before we even did the record I had a friend come over and he said to me, 'Mike, man, listen to the radio and do that!' And I went, 'But I don't like what I hear on the radio.' And he said, 'But no-one will like the music you're making.' And I replied, 'I don't really care, that's not my concern.'"

A LOT OF PEOPLE HATED SUICIDAL TENDENCIES. BUT WERE THERE PEOPLE WHO LOVED IT IMMEDIATELY?

"There were a few, but for most it took a little bit more time. When people saw pictures of us, they'd think, 'I don't know anyone who looks like that.' It was different, and sometimes different scares people."

TELL US ABOUT THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE SONG I SHOT THE DEVIL, WHICH CONTAINS THE LINE 'I SHOT [PRESIDENT RONALD] REAGAN'…

"Because of that song, I got a visit from the Secret Service. Someone at a record store told me that they came looking for me, and had taken a copy of the record. And then, three days later, there was a knock on the door and it was two representatives of the Secret Service, all ready to go with their 'good cop, bad cop' routine. I had to fill out a handwriting analysis, I had to sign a form to release my medical and mental health records, I had to answer a bunch of questions, I was told that I couldn't go to [Washington] D.C. without notifying them in advance. It was very interesting."

MTV PUT THE VIDEO FOR THE TRACK INSTITUTIONALIZED ON THEIR PLAYLIST, AND SUICIDAL TENDENCIES WOULD GO ON TO SELL 100,000 COPIES. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT NOW?

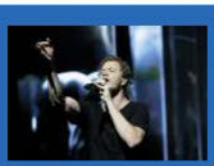
"I still think it's pretty amazing. It didn't sell those kind of numbers straight away. It was a slow growth, but it did keep on growing; it didn't stop. You know, the album's really different and, at the time, there was nothing else like it, so it was great that it finally took off. It felt good that an album that had nothing to do with compromise managed to find an audience."

Kerrang! Radio play it all at 10pm, February 25!

WORDS: IAN WINWOOD

"I GOT A VISIT FROM THE SECRET SERVICE DUE TO MY LYRICS…"
MIKE MUIR

people." Director Dick Carruthers is certainly the ideal candidate to immortalise that love, having captured live shows by Led Zeppelin and Beyoncé, he's got the requisite experience for a band that seamlessly knit together rock's almighty heft with a classy pop sheen. That cocktail is best exemplified by Demons and



mega-hit Radioactive, performed with all the laser/light/smoke trimmings, and with a live punch that provides an answer to those who might question Imagine Dragons' hard-hitting credentials. There are softer moments, too, however, such as when Dan has to sit down; struggling to take in what's before him. "People expect us to be numb to this," he says, almost in tears. "Thank you for being a part of the Smoke + Mirrors Tour." After watching this sensory overload of a live show, you can only imagine how it must have felt to be Dan and co creating it.

WORDS: JAMES HICKIE

K!LOBBER

MU$T HAV£S

ALL THE BEST GEAR FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF PLANET ROCK AND BEYOND!

While we like this Black Veil Brides baseball shirt, we'd be careful about wearing it when the Grim Reaper is around. It's basically an invitation for him.
£18.99 Grindstore.com

The Colonel says, "FCK OFF!" and who are we to argue with a man who has a secret recipe.
$10 (£7) Pinheadgang.com

Every menacing mug needs a place to put its menacing chocolate digestives.
£6.99 Iwantoneofthose.com

Fend off the rain and Stormtroopers with this Jedi poncho. But mainly just the rain, because this is real life.
£5.99 Grindstore.com

Don't expect a new Beartooth record, because it looks like they've gone off and joined a cult.
£15.99 Rockcollection.co.uk

Keep people in a big hole in your basement and make them apply Nivea? This pin should appeal.
$10 (£7) Creepycompany.com

Good Charlotte are back! And now you can pretend it's 2002 all over again with this classic shirt. Probably leave behind the studded belts and baggy jeans you would have worn with it back then… you know, the ones that soaked up entire puddles and got you wet up to your knees? Yeah, those.
£14.99 Grindstore.com

Deadpool hates getting his hair wet, so he borrows his nan's shower cap.
£12.99 Popinabox.co.uk

Like getting stopped by security? Then this jack-knife comb has you covered.
£3.99 Emp-online.co.uk

Fill this beer glass with human brains, or maybe just beer. Whichever you'd prefer.
£6.99 Iwantoneofthose.com

The Crimson Ghost with pizza shoulder pads in pin form? Sure, why the hell not.
$10 (£7) Pinheadgang.com

Better Call Saul came back last week! And now Jimmy McGill's back in tiny plastic form, too.
£9.99 Popinabox.co.uk

Tell your great uncle Norris Fall Out Boy are heavy metal and he'll never know they're not thanks to this shirt.
£17.99 Bluebanana.com

This build-your-own Throne Room should keep you busy while you wait for the next GOT season.
£38.99 Hboshopeu.com

Move over, bath bombs – blood bath shower gel has arrived. Will not be sold in Lush any time soon.
£19.99 Firebox.co.uk

Want your bedroom to smell like a grotty bar? Then light this bad boy up. Urine candles coming next week to complete the set.
£9.99 Grindstore.com

Not going away this year? Then this Vans backpack will be a little slice of holiday you can carry around with you. Just get used to seagulls flying into your head.
£34.99 Grindstore.com

One, two, Freddy's coming for you… and he's gonna eat your bloody sandwiches while he's at it. #cutleryforhands
£10.99 Grindstore.com

Buy a thousand bottles and spray this on everybody you know. Spray it on the dog, too.
£4.99 Emp-online.co.uk

BEATING ART BABY

START DIGGING AROUND DOWN THE BACK OF THE SOFA AND BUY YOURSELF AN ORIGINAL WORK OF ROCKSTAR ART…

Incubus frontman Brandon Boyd painted this using watercolour, oil pens and ink. Sadly, he didn't have time to draw her eyes.
$4,000 (£2,795) Brandon-boyd.myshopify.com

The most affordable of these original pieces, this sketch of Finn from Adventure Time is the work of Good Charlotte man Billy Martin.
$50 (£35) Bloodzilla.myshopify.com

While we call this one Big Eyed Boy With Boat On His Head, No Devotion keyboardist-turned-artist Jamie Oliver calls it The Young Orphan Ahab.
$295 (£206) Richardjoliver.com

Chris Rivers from Heaven's Basement's mediums of choice are oil paints and drums, but not both at once because nobody wants to be cleaning that mess up.
£249 Etsy.com

Forget paints, …And You Will Know Us By The Trail Of Dead's Conrad Keely went for the classic pen and ink, because sometimes simple is better.
£350 Conradkeelyart.bigcartel.com

This Giclée canvas by System Of A Down's Serj Tankian represents the timeless quality of music or some shit. We just like the pretty colours.
$1,200 (£839) Serjtankian.com

DON'T MISS

BARONESS

ARMED WITH NEW TUNES AND NEW MEMBERS, JOHN BAIZLEY IS HOPING BARONESS WILL BE ABLE TO FINISH THE TOUR THIS TIME…

HOW DOES IT FEEL COMING BACK FOR YOUR BIGGEST UK HEADLINE TOUR?

JOHN BAIZLEY (*VOCALS/GUITAR*): "It feels fantastic and I'm very much looking forward to it. We were injured last time we were on a proper tour here – so we missed being able to finish! Hopefully this doesn't end as poorly as the last."

AFTER THE BUS CRASH, YOU SPENT YOUR RECOVERY PERIOD IN THE UK – DO YOU FEEL YOU SHARE A SPECIAL CONNECTION HERE NOW?

"Yeah, absolutely. When I had to stay in hospital for a couple of months, my family and I were in Bath, so we feel a connection there, for better or worse sometimes. It's a legitimate connection that I've got there. Further to that, and not related to that incident whatsoever, the first tour we did outside the US was in the UK – it's a place that has been very critical for us over the years as a touring band. British crowds have always been incredibly gracious towards us, we've always had a really nice experience. I can't say it is the best time of the year to be touring anywhere, but that's what you sign up for (*laughs*)."

YOUR LATEST ALBUM, PURPLE, CAME OUT IN DECEMBER – CAN WE EXPECT TO HEAR A LOAD OF NEW MATERIAL?

"Oh yeah, Yellow & Green came out, like, three and a half years ago and we didn't get to tour for the support of that record – it was cut incredibly short. This is the first opportunity that we've had with this line-up to play and draw very heavily on the music that the four of us have written after the accident – we went through a significant line-up change. I'm hoping now that this kinda kicks off a new chapter for us, our new guys are playing songs that they were part of the writing of and that is as exciting for me as much as it's exciting for them."

> **"HOPEFULLY IT DOESN'T END AS POORLY THIS TIME"**
> **JOHN BAIZLEY**

DO YOU EVER GET NERVOUS BEFORE PLAYING A SHOW?

"Occasionally, especially when we've been off tour for such a long time. I mean, I think it's natural, but not in a way where I start to question what we do, because a big part of playing live is accepting the fact that not every night is going to be perfect – mistakes are going to get made."

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO GET UP TO ON YOUR DAYS OFF ON TOUR?

"On tours like this, where we've got extended time and the drives aren't too long, believe it or not, we really enjoy that we can wake up early, get off our bus and look at parts of the city. We've been lucky to achieve the amount of success we have. We can go into a town and soak in a bit of the culture, see the big city and hang out with some of our friends – we're visitors, so we like to connect with the city we're in."

FINALLY, WHAT DOES THE REST OF 2016 HOLD FOR BARONESS?

"More touring – we've got a record that we like and it only makes sense to us to get back out on tour. We'll be playing the UK more than once this year, assuming the UK don't turn on us."

DATES: Southampton Engine Rooms February 24, O2 Ritz Manchester 25, Leeds University Stylus 26, Glasgow Garage 28, O2 Inistitute Birmingham 29, London KOKO Camden March 1.

PHOTOGRAPHY: ANNE-LORE

YOUR WEEK!

KERRANG! DAY FEBRUARY 24

ABERDEEN Press To Meco, Max Raptor, Allusondrugs (Tunnels)
BIRMINGHAM The Joy Formidable (Rainbow Courtyard)
BRISTOL Tonight Alive, Our Last Night, Milk Teeth (O2 Academy Bristol)
EDINBURGH Devilskin (Bannerman's Bar)
GLASGOW City And Colour (O2 Academy Glasgow)
LIVERPOOL Wilson (Arts Club)
LONDON The Used (performing In Love And Death @ O2 Forum Kentish Town)
LONDON twenty one pilots, Transviolet (O2 Academy Brixton)
NEWCASTLE Wednesday 13 (Undead, Unplugged @ Think Tank?)
NEWCASTLE I.C.O.N, The Heretic Order (Trillians)
NOTTINGHAM Black Peaks (Rock City Basement)
SOUTHAMPTON Baroness (Engine Room)

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 25

BIRMINGHAM Exodus, Lost Society (Asylum)
BRISTOL The Cult (Colston Hall)
DUNDEE Press To Meco, Max Raptor, Allusondrugs (Buskers)
EDINBURGH I.C.O.N, The Heretic Order (Bannermans)
GLASGOW The Joy Formidable (King Tut's)
LONDON Modern Baseball, Sorority Noise (Electric Ballroom, Camden)
LONDON twenty one pilots, Transviolet (O2 Academy Brixton)
MANCHESTER Baroness (O2 Ritz Manchester)
MANCHESTER Enter Shikari, The Wonder Years, The King Blues (Victoria Warehouse)
NEWCASTLE Wilson (O2 Academy2 Newcastle)
NORWICH Wednesday 13 (Undead, Unplugged @ Waterfront)
OXFORD Ricky Warwick (O2 Academy Oxford)
SHEFFIELD Therapy? (Plug)
TUNBRIDGE WELLS Black Peaks (Forum)

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 26

BIRMINGHAM Tonight Alive, Our Last Night, Milk Teeth (O2 Institute Birmingham)
BRIGHTON Black Peaks (Haunt)
CARDIFF Therapy? (Oran Mor)
CARLISLE Press To Meco, Max Raptor, Allusondrugs (Brickyard)
DUMFRIES I.C.O.N, The Heretic Order (Venue)
GLASGOW Wilson (Broadcast)
LEEDS Baroness (University Stylus)
LONDON City And Colour (Troxy)
LONDON Devilskin (Underworld, Camden)
MANCHESTER Modern Baseball, Sorority Noise (Gorilla)
MANCHESTER The Cult (Albert Hall)
MILTON KEYNES Wednesday 13 (Undead, Unplugged @ Craufurd Arms)
NEWCASTLE Hacktivist, Counting Days (Think Tank?)
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE Exodus, Lost Society (Riverside)
NORWICH Sabaton, Alestorm, Bloodbound (UEA)
PORTSMOUTH Ricky Warwick (Pyramids)

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 27

DEESIDE I.C.O.N, The Heretic Order (McLeans)
EDINBURGH Press To Meco, Max Raptor, Allusondrugs (Sneaky Pete's)
EVESHAM Devilskin (Iron Road)
EXETER Ricky Warwick (Phoenix)
LEEDS Wilson (Key Club)
LONDON Enter Shikari, The Wonder Years, The King Blues, Arcane Roots (Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill)
LONDON The Cult (O2 Academy Brixton)
LONDON City And Colour (Troxy)
LONDON Wednesday 13 (Undead, Unplugged @ Underworld, Camden)
MANCHESTER Sabaton, Alestorm, Bloodbound (Academy)
NEWCASTLE Therapy? (Northumbria University)
NEWCASTLE Theory Of A Deadman, Royal Republic (University)
NOTTINGHAM twenty one pilots, Transviolet (Rock City)
PETERBOROUGH Hacktivist, Counting Days (Met Lounge)

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28

BIRMINGHAM Sabaton, Alestorm, Bloodbound (O2 Academy Birmingham)
BRISTOL Twenty One Pilots, Transviolet (O2 Academy Bristol)
BRISTOL Wednesday 13 (Undead, Unplugged @ Thekla)
CARDIFF Ricky Warwick (University Solus)
GLASGOW Baroness (Garage)
GLASGOW Exodus, Lost Society (Cathouse)
GLASGOW Theory Of A Deadman, Royal Republic (O2 ABC Glasgow)
LONDON I.C.O.N, The Heretic Order (Upstairs @ Garage)
SOUTHAMPTON Hacktivist, Counting Days (Joiners)
SOUTHAMPTON Devilskin (Talking Heads)

MONDAY FEBRUARY 29

BELFAST Exodus, Lost Society (Limelight)
BIRMINGHAM Baroness (O2 Institute Birmingham)
BRISTOL Sleeping With Sirens, As It Is, This Wild Life, Beach Weather (O2 Academy Bristol)
LEEDS Theory Of A Deadman, Royal Republic (Beckett Uni Student's Union)
MANCHESTER Wilson (Sound Control)
NEWCASTLE Press To Meco, Max Raptor, Allusondrugs (Think Tank?)
NOTTINGHAM The Cult (Rock City)
PORTSMOUTH twenty one pilots, Transviolet (Guildhall)
SOUTHAMPTON Sabaton, Alestorm, Bloodbound (O2 Guildhall Southampton)

TUESDAY MARCH 1

BIRMINGHAM Hacktivist, Counting Days (Arts Club)
BIRMINGHAM The Cult (O2 Institute Birmingham)
BIRMINGHAM Hacktivist (Rainbow)
CAMBRIDGE Wilson (Portland Arms)
DUBLIN Exodus, Lost Society (Button Factory)
LONDON Baroness (KOKO, Camden)
MANCHESTER Press To Meco, Max Raptor, Allusondrugs (Deaf Institute)
NOTTINGHAM Wednesday 13 (Undead, Unplugged @ Rescue Rooms)
NOTTINGHAM Sleeping With Sirens, As It Is, This Wild Life, Beach Weather (Rock City)
WOLVERHAMPTON Ricky Warwick (Robin 2)

RIDER OF THE WEEK

BAND: Set It Off

We're not sure what Barney the Dinosaur is up to these days, but the Teletubbies are back – maybe you could have them instead?

SET IT OFF

One large bottle of Jack Daniel's
Air conditioner set to 69 degrees
One bottle of Smirnoff vodka
12 craft beers
12 case of PBR
Tears from our enemies
Adult diapers
8 ginger beers (Bundaberg, Reed's, Gosling's, Fentimans) NOT ALCOHOL!!
Gluten-free gluten
2 x 24-cases of bottled water
Assorted deli meats / cheese
Barney the Dinosaur
2 x precooked rotisserie chickens
2 x tubs of hummus (garlic & original)
12 cans of Coca-Cola
2 bags of large flour tortillas
4 sugar-free Monster energy drinks
6 stage towels (in-house)
9 shower towels (in-house)
Paper towels, cutlery, napkins, condiments, tea kettle
Small bag of ice
Assorted fruits
Assorted vegetables
1 bottle of Sriracha
Kanye West preshow motivational speech

CAN'T GET TO A GIG?

THEN HERE'S SOME OTHER STUFF TO KEEP YOUR EYES/EARS BUSY

NOTHING BUT... PANIC! AT THE DISCO

KERRANG! TV – FEBRUARY 26, *10:30AM*

We know it's hard getting out of bed in the morning *yawns*. But It's Better If You Do, because these videos are just like Nicotiiiine. Although, it will cause you to shout 'Hallelujah' at your TV box…

PVRIS – GHOSTS AND LET THEM IN DOUBLE VIDEO

KERRANG.COM

We think PVRIS have been watching far too many episodes of The X-Files. Things get a bit spooooky in this one, as they're one step closer from getting a visit from Mulder and Scully. But we all know they're just pesky kids messing about with some lights…

DON BROCO: NERVE LIVE FROM BRIXTON

KERRANG.COM

Like white matching skinny jeans, palm trees, raining fire *and* a string quartet? You do?! Well, the Bedford boys pack all of the summer vibes in their new video for the anthemic Nerve. Taken from their sold-out O2 Academy Brixton show last year, the chaps know how to inject some heat into your life. Shame it can't shift our cold.

MY FIRST GIG

WHO: DEPECHE MODE AND PRIMAL SCREAM, PNC BANKS ARTS CENTER, NEW JERSEY, 1994

THE GASLIGHT ANTHEM MAN ENDED UP PLAYING THE SAME VENUE AS HIS FIRST GIG. SEE, KIDS, DREAMS CAN COME TRUE…

BRIAN FALLON

"I saw Depeche Mode and Primal Scream in 1994, at the PNC Bank Arts Center in New Jersey. It was when Primal Scream were doing their Give Out But Don't Give Up record, when they did The Rolling Stones' kinda sound. And Depeche Mode had *just* gotten back together and they were doing *all* the songs from all their records, so I was like, 'Whoa!'

"I didn't really know about Primal Scream until that show, and then I found out about Creation Records and all that stuff. But Depeche Mode were cool – they're a *good* band live.

"I was pumped, because I was 14 years old and that was the first concert I ever saw. I don't really remember that much – just that it was my first concert. I definitely remember sitting in the audience and being like, 'I wanna do this – I want to be in a band'. So, it definitely sparked something.

"We [The Gaslight Anthem] played at the same venue about two years ago, which was mind-blowing, and I told everybody about it being the first show I ever saw, so that was pretty cool!"

WORDS: EMILY CARTER

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SPOTLIGHT ON...

NEWPORT

DESPITE RECENT EVENTS, NEWPORT ISN'T *THAT* BAD AFTER ALL...

BENJI WEBBE (VOCALS), SKINDRED

WHAT WAS THE MUSIC SCENE LIKE IN NEWPORT WHEN YOU WERE GROWING UP?

"I was more into the ska stuff, and **The Clash**, and that's how I got into the punk stuff growing up, I always wanted to be in a band. I don't consider myself to be Jamaican – I always loved **T. Rex**, **David Bowie** and **Slade**, but, at the same time, I loved reggae, and as I got into bands such as **The Clash** and **Public Enemy**, a lot of my friends did as well. **Newport** is such a mixed-up melting pot because of the docks; you've got blacks, whites, Africans, Asians – we all came up on the same stuff, so it was never about where you were from, it was more to do with where you were at, and you'd see everyone at the shows. It was funny, because when you'd put a ska night on, you'd go there and end up seeing barristers, policemen and office workers who wanted to be a part of it."

WHAT ARE THE KEY VENUES IN THE AREA?

"We had **TJ's**, which was run by **John Sicolo**, who passed away, and his grandson opened a club that was fantastic, but due to noise and people walking back up the street drunk at two o'clock in the morning it got closed down. But there's a new place opened up called **Slipping Jimmy's**, which I think is a great name, and that's getting a lot more bands coming in, which is cool. There's a place called **Le Pub**, and I remember seeing bands like **Trash Talk** there. The venue is about the size of my garage, which is great. It's small enough that you can pretty much be at the bar ordering drinks while onstage singing at the same time!"

ARE THERE ANY STUDIOS AROUND FOR BANDS TO RECORD AT?

"There is, there's one local studio called **Monnow Valley** where **Bullet For My Valentine** recorded the demos that got them signed. There's also one called **Junkyard Studios**, which is run by my old guitarist in **Dub War**, **Jeff Rose**. He's helping a lot of bands at the moment, he's doing a lot of stuff for local bands."

CAN YOU REMEMBER THE BEST SHOW YOU'VE EVER PLAYED IN NEWPORT?

"Yes, at the **Newport Centre**, there were 2,000 people there. It's a place I'd seen **Pantera**, **David Bowie**, **Marilyn Manson**, and I've always stood in that crowd saying, 'I want to be on that stage some day,' and two years ago we ended up selling it out."

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO BANDS TRYING TO MAKE IT THIS TOWN?

"I'd say to any band trying to make it *anywhere:* keep off **YouTube**. Do not put your first rehearsals on there. Being a musician is like being a bricklayer or a plumber – the first time you build a wall or fix a pipe, it's your *first time*, and you're not going to get it right. Just keep trying, keep developing your skill, don't show people what you can do when you can't do it all that well. You could well become a great band, so make sure people see *that* rather than having to get over the problem of being written off early on because you're associated with those videos when you were nowhere near as good as you are after putting in the time to get to the level you really want to be playing and writing at."

INTERVIEW: DAN SLESSOR

There seems to be a lot to C at this venue... ARF!

Banksy's latest exploits. We give this 2Ks...

BOOKING NOW

2000TREES
Line-up: Twin Atlantic, Refused, Moose Blood, WSTR, While She Sleeps, Palm Reader and loads more! Cheltenham Upcote Farm July 7 – 9.

5 SECONDS OF SUMMER
Sheffield Arena April 5, London O2 Arena 7 – 8, Leeds First Direct Arena 11, Nottingham Capital FM Arena 12, Birmingham Genting Arena 14, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 18, Glasgow SSE Hydro 19 – 20, Manchester Arena 22 – 23, Belfast SSE Arena 25, Dublin 3Arena 26 – 27.

AC/DC
London Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park Stadium June 4, Manchester Etihad Stadium 9.

ALICE COOPER
Stone Free Festival @ London O2 Arena June 18 – 19.

AMERICAN IDIOT: THE MUSICAL
Leicester Curve Theatre March 19 – 26, Bromley Churchill Theatre March 30 – April 2, Manchester Palace Theatre 4 – 9, Cardiff New Theatre April 19 – 23, Portsmouth Kings Theatre April 26 – 30, Oxford New Theatre May 3 – 7, Birmingham New Alexandra Theatre May 10 – 14, Sunderland Empire May 24 – 28, Glasgow King's Theatre May 31 – June 4.

AMON AMARTH
Dublin Vicar Street March 26, London Camden Roundhouse 27. Support: Le Butcherettes.

AT THE DRIVE-IN
London Camden Underworld March 22.

BABYMETAL
London SSE Arena Wembley April 2.

BARONESS
Southampton Engine Room February 24, O2 Ritz Manchester 25, Leeds University Stylus 26, Clydebank Garage 28, O2 Institute Birmingham 29, London Camden KOKO March 1.

BLIND GUARDIAN
Glasgow Queen Margaret Union May 17, O2 Ritz Manchester 18, Dublin Academy 19, Nottingham Rock City 21, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 22.

BLOODSTOCK
Line-up: Slayer, Mastodon, Twisted Sister, Venom, Behemoth, DragonForce, Paradise Lost, Rotting Christ, Anthrax, Gojira, Satyricon, Fear Factory, Symphony X, Acid Reign, Metal Allegiance, Stuck Mojo, Goatwhore. Derbyshire Catton Park August 11 – 14.

BRIAN FALLON & THE CROWES
O2 Ritz Manchester April 5, O2 ABC Glasgow 6, O2 Institute Birmingham 7, London Camden KOKO 8, Nottingham Rock City 9, O2 Academy Bristol 10.

BRING ME THE HORIZON
London Royal Albert Hall April 22. London O2 Arena October 31, Bournemouth BIC November 1, Nottingham Arena 2, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 4, London O2 Arena 5, Sheffield Arena 6, Manchester Arena 8, Glasgow SSE Hydro 9.

BULLET FOR MY VALENTINE
Newport Centre November 24, O2 Academy Newcastle 27, O2 Academy Glasgow 30, Manchester Academy December 3, O2 Academy Birmingham 6, London O2 Academy Brixton 9.

CHRIS CORNELL
Belfast Ulster Hall April 24, Dublin Olympia Theatre 25, Manchester Bridgewater 27, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall 29, Bristol Colston Hall 30, Birmingham Symphony Hall May 2, London Royal Albert Hall 3.

CITY AND COLOUR
O2 Academy Glasgow February 24, London Troxy 26 – 27.

CONVERGE
London Brixton Electric April 13. Support: Blood Moon.

COUNTERFEIT
Nottingham Rock City April 18, Glasgow King Tut's 19, Manchester Deaf Institute 20, O2 Temple At The Institute Birmingham 21, London Camden Electric Ballroom 23.

CRADLE OF FILTH
Chester Live Rooms March 12, Dublin Academy 13, Belfast Limelight 14. Support: Winterfylleth.

CREEPER
London Camden Underworld March 3. Support: Grader.

CROOKS
Birmingham Asylum II March 2, Cardiff Fuel Club 3, London Garage 4, Edinburgh Mash House 5, Manchester Deaf Institute 6. Support: Solemn Sun, Milestones (London only), Omaha.

CROSSFAITH
Southend Chinnery's March 16, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 17, Brighton Haunt 18, Cardiff Y Plas 19, Plymouth Hub 20, Leeds Key Club 22, Reading Sub 89 23, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 24, O2 Academy2 Liverpool 25, Manchester Academy II 26, Glasgow King Tut's 28, Sheffield Corporation 29, Norwich Waterfront 30, London Brixton Electric 31.

DEAFHEAVEN
Bristol Fleece March 13, London Heaven 14. Support: Myrkr.

DEFEATER
O2 Academy3 Birmingham March 14, Glasgow Cottiers Theatre 15, Manchester Star & Garter 16, London King's Cross Scala 17. Support: Break Even, Kids Insane.

THE DEFILED
Norwich Waterfront Studio May 3, Swansea Scene 4, Chester Live Rooms 5, Newcastle Think Tank? 6, Sheffield Corporation 7, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 8, York Duchess 10, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 11, Oxford Bullingdon 12. Support: Forever Never.

DEFTONES
London SSE Arena Wembley June 3.

DESERTFEST
Line-up: Electric Wizard, Elder, Godflesh, Crowbar, Conan, Raging Speedhorn, Witchsorrow. London various venues April 29 – May 1.

DOWNLOAD FESTIVAL
Line-up: Rammstein, Black Sabbath, Iron Maiden, Korn, Megadeth, Disturbed, Nightwish, Deftones, The Amity Affliction, Counting Days, Gutterdämmerung, Havok, Killswitch Engage, Skillet, Twin Atlantic, Fort Hope, Architects, Atreyu, Beartooth, Black Foxxes, Dead!, Down, Milk Teeth, Neck Deep, Rival Sons, Skindred, TesseracT, Lawnmower Deth, Attila, Billy Talent, Breaking Benjamin, Delain, Don Broco, Frank Carter & The Rattlesnakes, Ghost, Gojira, Halestorm, Ho99o9, Saxon, Shinedown, Tremonti, All Time Low, Buck & Evans, Devil You Know, Glassjaw, Napalm Death, Pennywise, The Raven Age, Royal Republic, Scattering Ashes, Scorpion Child, The Shrine, The Temperance Movement, Weirds, The Wildhearts. Donington Park June 10 – 12.

ENTER SHIKARI
O2 Academy Glasgow February 18, Edinburgh Corn Exchange 19, Nottingham Capital FM Arena 20, Bournemouth BIC 22, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 23, Manchester Victoria Warehouse 25, London Alexandra Palace 27. Support: The Wonder Years., The King Blues.

EVERY TIME I DIE
London Borderline May 31, London Camden Underworld June 1, London Tufnell Park Dome 2, London Old Blue Last 3.

FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS
O2 Academy2 Newcastle March 2, O2 Academy3 Birmingham 3, Edinburgh Electric Circus 4, Sheffield Corporation 5, Liverpool Arts Club 7, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 8, Southampton Talking Heads 9, Norwich Arts Centre 10. Support: Vukovi, Miss Vincent.

FUNERAL FOR A FRIEND
Cardiff Y Plas April 5 – 6, Manchester Ritz 8 – 9, Glasgow O2 ABC 10 – 11, Birmingham O2 Institute 13 – 14, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 15 – 16. Support: Shai Hulud, ZOAX.

GHOST
London Palladium March 2. Support: Poltergeist.

HACKTIVIST
Newcastle Think Tank? February 26, Peterborough Met Lounge 27, Southampton Joiners 28, Birmingham Rainbow March 1, Liverpool Arts Club 2. Support: Counting Days.

HANDS LIKE HOUSES
Manchester Academy III May 25, Leeds Key Club 26, Glasgow Cathouse 27, Newcastle Uni SU 28, Liverpool Arts Centre Loft 29, Nottingham Bodega 30, O2 Institute2 Birmingham 31, Southampton Joiners June 1, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 2, London O2 Academy Islington 3, Bristol Exchange 4.

HEVY FEST
Line-up: Refused, SikTh, While She Sleeps, H2O, Gnarwolves, Animals As Leaders, Hacktivist, Krokodil, No Consequence, Devil Sold His Soul, Forever Never, Vukovi, Murdock, When Our Time Comes. Derbyshire Newhaven August 19 – 20.

HECK
Nottingham Rescue Rooms March 11, Newcastle Think Tank? 13, Glasgow Cathouse 14, Manchester

Star & Garter 15, Cheltenham Frog & Fiddle 17, Swansea Riff Raff @ Sin City 18, Bath Moles 19, Southampton Joiners 20, London Borderline 21.

IGGY POP & JOSH HOMME
London Royal Albert Hall May 18.

IMPERICON FESTIVAL
Line-up: Hatebreed, Northlane, Emmure, blessthefall, Chelsea Grin, Hundreth, Despised Icon, Heart Of A Coward, Hellions, Eskimo Callboy. Manchester Academy May 2, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 3.

IN THIS MOMENT
London O2 Forum Kentish Town May 25, Birmingham Institute 26, Manchester Academy 27, O2 Academy Glasgow 28. Support: The Defiled.

ISLE OF WIGHT FESTIVAL
Line-up: Queen + Adam Lambert, Stereophonics, Twin Atlantic, Sixx:A.M and more! Seaclose Park, Newport June 9 – 12.

ISSUES
Cardiff Y Plas May 24, London Camden KOKO 25, O2 Manchester Ritz 26, Glasgow Garage 27, Southampton Engine Rooms 31.

THE JOY FORMIDABLE
Birmingham Rainbow Courtyard February 24, Glasgow King Tut's 25.

LETLIVE.
Manchester Sound Control April 21, London Tufnell Park Dome 22, London Camden Underworld 23, Kingston Fighting Cocks 24.

LIFE OF AGONY
London Camden Electric Ballroom March 17, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 18, Manchester Club Academy 19.

MACHINE HEAD
Norwich Open March 2, Nottingham Rock City 3, Belfast Limelight 5, Dublin Olympia 6, Manchester Academy 8, Cardiff Great Hall 10, London Eventim Apollo 11, O2 Academy Glasgow 12.

MANIC STREET PREACHERS
Swansea Liberty Stadium May 28, Echo Arena May 13, Birmingham Genting Arena 14, London Royal Albert Hall 16 – 17, Leeds First Direct Arena 20, Glasgow SSE Hydro 21. Support: Editors.

MAYBESHEWILL
London Camden KOKO April 15.

MEMPHIS MAY FIRE
London Camden Electric Ballroom May 31. Support: We Came As Romans, Miss May I.

MINISTRY
Cardiff Tramshed August 16, O2 ABC Glasgow 17, O2 Institute Birmingham 18, O2 Ritz Manchester 19, London O2 Forum Kentish Town. Support: DevilDriver.

MONSTER MAGNET
London O2 Forum Kentish Town March 19. Support: Orange Goblin, Scorpion Child.

MOOSE BLOOD
Bristol Fleece April 13, Southampton 1865 14, London O2 Academy Islington 15, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 16, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 17, Leeds Brudenell Social Club 18, Manchester Sound Control 20, Newcastle Academy II 21, Edinburgh Mash House 22, Liverpool Arts Club 23.

MUSE
Birmingham Barclaycard Arena April 2, London O2 Arena 3, Dublin 3Arena 5, Belfast SSE Arena 6, Manchester Arena 8 – 9, London O2 Arena 11 – 15, Glasgow SSE Hydro 17 – 18.

NECK DEEP
O2 Guildhall Southampton April 16, Newcastle University Student Union 18, Leeds Beckett University 19, O2 Academy Liverpool 20. Support: Creeper, WSTR.

NILE
Bristol Bierkeller April 7, London Tufnell Park Dome 8. Support: Melechest, Embryo.

THE OFFSPRING / BAD RELIGION
O2 Academy Birmingham June 19, O2 Academy Glasgow 20, London Eventim Apollo 22.

PURSON
Bristol Louisiana March 9, Nottingham Rock City 10, Norwich Waterfront Studio 11, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 12, London 100 Club 16, Exeter Cavern Club 24, Plymouth Junction 25, Southampton Joiners 26, Brighton Hope & Ruin 27, Birmingham Sunflower Lounge 30, Manchester Night & Day 31, Glasgow Audio April 1, Leeds Brudenell 2.

PVRIS
Brighton Concorde April 1, Norwich UEA 2, Newcastle Riverside 3, Glasgow Garage 4, Manchester Academy 6, Cardiff Great Hall 8, O2 Institute Birmingham 9. Support: K.Flay, Bones and Alvarez Kings (select dates).

PHOTO: CARRIE DAVENPORT

HEVY FEST

Latest additions: Enter Shikari, The Bronx, La Dispute, Heart Of A Coward, I Killed The Prom Queen, Arcane Roots, Rolo Tomassi, Agent Fresco, TRC, Good Tiger, Intervals, SHVPES, Giants, Max Raptor, Slabdragger, Falls, Calls Landing, Plini, Wars, Bad Sign.

JUST ANNOUNCED

BLOODSTOCK
Latest additions: Phil Campbell's All Starr Band, The King Is Blind, Witchsorrow.

BURY TOMORROW
Southampton Engine Rooms June 4.

BUTCHER BABIES
Nottingham Rock City Basement April 11, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 12, Bristol Marble Factory 13, Cardiff Globe 14, Swansea Scene 15, Manchester Rebellion Bar 16, Newcastle Think Tank? 17, Glasgow Cathouse 19, Chester Live Rooms 20, Reading Sub 89 21, London Camden Underworld 22, O2 Academy3 Birmingham 23, Southampton Talking Heads 24. Support: Sumo Cyco.

CAMDEN ROCKS
Line-up: SikTh, Young Guns, We Are The Ocean, Ginger Wildheart, InMe, Norma Jean, The Godfathers, Evil Scarecrow, New Years Day, The Virginmarys, The Qemists, Queen Kwong, Jim Jones And The Righteous Mind, Forever Never, As Lions, The Dirty Youth, The Men That Will Not Be Blamed For Nothing, SHVPES, Black Foxxes, Freeze The Atlantic, Asylums, Lounge Kittens, Press To Meco, Continents, Shields, Fathoms, Blood Youth, Scholars, Ashestoangels, Dorje, Cold In Berlin, Samoans, Create To Inspire, Witterquick, The Tuts, Lock, Moses, Counting Days, The Ghost Riders In The Sky, Bad Sign, Hands Off Gretel, Chinese Missy. Camden (Various Venues) June 4.

LESS THAN JAKE
Kingston Upon Thames Hippodrome May 2, O2 Academy Liverpool 3, O2 Academy Leicester 4, O2 Academy Oxford 5. Support: Trash Boat, Success.

PUSCIFER
Manchester Bridgewater Hall May 30, London Camden Roundhouse 31.

SLAM DUNK FESTIVAL
Latest addtions: The King Blues, Shikari Sound System DJ Set, Moose Blood, Gnarwolves, The Amity Affliction, The Word Alive, Chunk! No, Captain Chunk!, Catch 22.

TESTAMENT
Leamington Spa Assembley June 21, Southampton Engine Rooms 22.

READING & LEEDS 2016
Line-up: Red Hot Chili Peppers, twenty one pilots, Slaves, Crossfaith, Eagles Of Death Metal and more! Reading Richfield Avenue and Leeds Bramham Park August 26 – 28.

RECKLESS LOVE
Bristol Thekla March 4, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 5, Leeds Key Club 6, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 7, Glasgow Cathouse 9, Manchester Gorilla 10, Nottingham Rock City 12, London King's Cross Scala 31.

REFUSED
Glasgow Garage March 22, Manchester Academy 23, Leeds Stylus 24, Brighton Concorde II 25, Birmingham Library 26. Support: Anna Von Hausswolff.

ROLO TOMASSI
Hartlepool Studio April 8, Sheffield Picture House 10, Birmingham Sunflower Lounge 11, Cardiff Moon Club 12, Southampton Joiners 13. Support: Terrible Love.

SAOSIN
London O2 Academy Islington April 30.

SIMPLE PLAN
O2 Academy Bristol March 20, Nottingham Rock City 22, Manchester Ritz 23, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 24. Support: Ghost Town.

SLAM DUNK FESTIVAL
Line-up: Panic! At The Disco, Of Mice & Men, New Found Glory, Mallory Knox, Four Year Strong, The Starting Line, Set Your Goals, Every Time I Die, Issues, Memphis May Fire, Zebrahead, Capdown, Real Friends, Miss May I, We Came As Romans. Slam Dunk North – Leeds City Centre May 28, Slam Dunk Midlands – Birmingham NEC 29, Slam Dunk South – Hatfield University Of Hertfordshire 30.

SLEEP
London O2 Forum Kentish Town July 6.

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS
O2 Academy Bristol February 29, Nottingham Rock City March 1, O2 Academy Glasgow 2, O2 Apollo Manchester 4, O2 Academy Birmingham 5, London Camden Roundhouse 6. Support: As It Is, This Wild Life, Beach Weather.

THE SMITH STREET BAND
London Camden Underworld July 9, Kingston Fighting Cocks 10, Norwich Owl Sanctuary 12, Nottingham Bodega 13, Glasgow Audio 14, Manchester Soup Kitchen 15, Dublin Fibber Magees 16, Brighton Prince Albert 17. Support: Apologies, I Have None, Woahnows.

THE SUMMER SET
Bristol Thekla May 10, London King's Cross Scala 12, Birmingham Asylum 13, Leeds Key Club 14, Glasgow G2 15, Manchester Club Academy 17, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 18, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 19.

TECH-FEST
Line-up: Protest The Hero, Between The Buried And Me, Fit For An Autopsy, Textures, Aegaeon, Destiny Potato, Disperse, Shields, Cold Night For Alligators, Vitalism, The Hirsch Effekt, The Green River Burial, Sworn Amongst, Tardive Diskinesia, Suasion, Harbinger, Make Me A Donut. Newark Showground July 7 – 11.

THEORY OF A DEADMAN
Newcastle University February 27, O2 ABC Glasgow 28, Leeds Beckett SU 29, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire March 2, Cardiff Y Plas Students Union 3,
O2 Academy2 Birmingham 4, O2 Ritz Manchester 5, Norwich Waterfront 6. Support: Royal Republic.

TONIGHT ALIVE
O2 Academy Bristol February 24, O2 Institute Birmingham 26. Support: Our Last Night, Milk Teeth.

TRIVIUM
Norwich UEA March 20, Ipswich Corn Exchange 21, Portsmouth Pyramids 22, Bristol Academy 23, O2 Academy Oxford 25, Lincoln Engine Shed 26, O2 Academy Leicester 27, York Barbican 29, Middlesbrough Empire 30, Aberdeen Beach Ballroom 31, Kilmarnock Grand Hall April 1.

TWENTY ONE PILOTS
London O2 Academy Brixton February 24 – 25, Nottingham Rock City 27, O2 Academy Bristol 28, Portsmouth Guildhall 29.

THE USED
London O2 Forum Kentish Town February 24.

WEDNESDAY 13 (UNDEAD, UNPLUGGED)
Newcastle Think Tank? February 24, Norwich Waterfront 25, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 26, London Camden Underworld 27, Bristol Thekla 28, Nottingham Rescue Rooms March 1, York Duchess 2, Birmingham Oobleck 3, Huddersfield Parish 4, Manchester Satan's Hollow 5.

WHILE SHE SLEEPS
Mansfield Intake March 16, Hull Adelphi 17, Huddersfield Parish 18, Bolton Alma 19, Corby Zombie Hut 20, Gravesend Red Lion 22, Brighton Haunt 23, Plymouth Junction 24, Oxford Bullingdon 25, Doncaster Vintage 26.

WOLF ALICE
Belfast Mandela Hall March 4, Dublin Olympia 5, Stoke-On-Trent Keele Uni Students Union 7, Manchester Academy 10, Norwich UEA 11, O2 Academy Oxford 13, Portsmouth Pyramids 14, Glasgow Barrowland 16, York Barbican 17, O2 Academy Leeds 19, Folkestone Cliff Halls 21, Brighton Dome 22, Nottingham Rock City 23, Cardiff Great Hall 24, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 26 – 27.

WOLFMOTHER
Manchester Academy April 9, O2 Academy Newcastle 10, O2 Academy Glasgow 11, O2 Academy Leeds 13, Nottingham Rock City 14, O2 Academy Birmingham 16, O2 Academy Bristol 17, O2 Guildhall Southampton 18, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 20.

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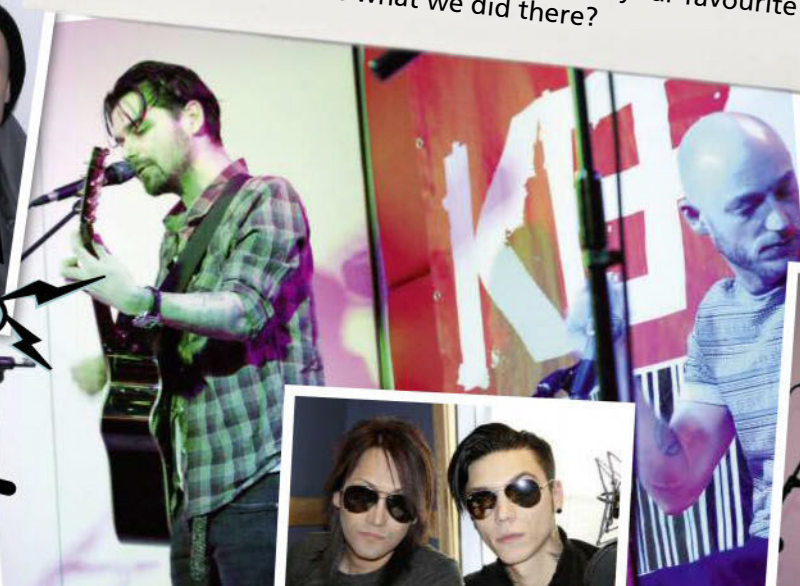

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THE SMALL PRINT!

Kerrang! Radio will also still be on DAB digital radio in London, but you might need to retune to find us. For more information on retuning and other ways to listen, just head to Kerrangradio.co.uk. We appreciate many of you may have questions or concerns about how you can still listen to your favourite radio station, and if you're still unsure of anything, you can always reach us by sending an email to kerrangqueries@bauermedia.co.uk.

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PURSES - ACCESSORIES - BELT BUCKLES - HATS - KEYCHAINS
BAGS - STUDS AND SPIKE - WALLETS

NEXT WEEK

ON SALE MARCH 2

EDITORIAL

WHAT WAS YOUR WEIRDEST WEEKEND?

EDITOR: James McMahon *(When Michael Jackson died – and I was the only music journalist not at Glasto, and able to go on telly)*
DEPUTY EDITOR: George Garner *(Spending a long Saturday in a shark cage in the Pacific Ocean – and not seeing any sharks)*
ART EDITOR: Steve Beech *(52-hour bender in Prague)*
PRODUCTION EDITOR: Ryan Cooper *(Getting bitten by something at Groezrock and almost dying – fucking bugs)*
FEATURES EDITOR: Sam Coare *(Steve Beech's stag)*
PICTURE EDITOR: Scarlet Borg *(An all-nighter with Hawkwind)*
ASSOCIATE EDITOR (REVIEWS): Nick Ruskell *(Download Festival, 2003 – 2015)*
NEWS EDITOR: Jennyfer J. Walker *(Flying to America on a Friday and flying back on a Sunday)*
DEPUTY ART EDITOR: Matt Dykzeul *(1 weekend, 12 Jess Franco movies)*
NEW MUSIC EDITOR/EDITORIAL ASSISTANT/SUB: Emily Carter *(Swimming in a pool with sharks)*
DESIGNER: Sophie Bland *(One word… Portsmouth.)*
LISTINGS EDITOR: James Hingle *(Being kidnapped by Nick Ruskell and taken to Download)*

CONTRIBUTING ED: Katie Parsons *(Dancing with Mr Motivator on the Isle Of Wight)*

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THANKS TO: Martin Boon.

INTERN OF THE WEEK: Shane Kiernan
For all work experience opportunities, check out GoThinkBig.co.uk.

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THE ULTIMATE

ROCKSTAR TEST

MORTIIS

HOW MANY LEGENDARY, CAVE-DWELLING, NORSE ROCKSTAR TROLLS DO YOU KNOW? JUST ONE…

ON ROCK'N'ROLL...

WHAT'S THE WORST STATE YOU'VE EVER LEFT A HOTEL ROOM IN?

"A *turd* was sticking out of *the wall*. No-one admitted putting it there, and I don't even know how that's physically possible. I suspect it was someone who was maybe drunk enough to miss the toilet. By six feet. At an upwards angle."

HAVE YOU EVER WOKEN UP WITH INJURIES YOU DON'T REMEMBER RECEIVING?

"There was one time I was *covered* in cigarette burns. I later found out that, during a show, I scared off half the crowd by grabbing cigarettes from them and putting them out all over my body, finishing up with one in my belly button. And I even burned off some of a tattoo, like a fucking idiot!"

HAVE YOU EVER THROWN A TV OUT OF A WINDOW?

"No, with my luck I'd hit a car, or kill someone. I put my fist through a window once. I was working in a studio, but it was locked, so I broke a window and let myself in. Only I would have to break into my own recording session…"

The lengths some producers will go to to stop singers turning themselves up in the mix…

ON FAILURES AND F'UPS...

HAVE YOU EVER SUFFERED AN ONSTAGE MAKE-UP MALFUNCTION?

"There was one show where it reached the point where I thought, 'Fuck this, I know my mask's going to fall off,' so I just ripped it off and threw it into the crowd. And, hey, folks liked that!"

HAVE YOU EVER TURNED UP TO THE WRONG VENUE FOR A GIG?

"No, but I turned up to a venue and thought the wrong *crowd* was there for us. We saw a shitload of emo kids from the bus, and I was like, 'Fuck, man – I didn't think we were pulling this many 14-year-olds! This is gonna be a weird but cool show!' Of course, the venue had two rooms, and they were there for some big, popular band."

We can almost hear a sad trumpet parp in the background as you tell us this story, Mortiis…

LIFESTYLES OF THE RICH AND FAMOUS...

WHO IS THE MOST FAMOUS MORTIIS FAN YOU KNOW OF?

"A friend of mine who works in a record store called me up one time and said, 'Dude, one of the chicks from ABBA just bought one of your records!' I'm not sure if that was for her, but the idea of the owner of the voice on Waterloo buying my music made my day!"

WHAT'S THE MOST EXTRAVAGANT THING YOU'VE EVER BOUGHT?

"I collect old Venom vinyl, and I spent €1,200 [£935] on one LP. What an idiot, right? It's Black Metal [Venom's 1982 album] on coloured vinyl. It's impossible to find and I *had* to get it."

Did you have to fight off a member of ABBA for the last copy of it?

ON THE HYPOTHETICAL

WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE TO FIGHT – A GOBLIN OR A TROLL?

"Knowing my mythology, trolls are fucking *huge*, so I wouldn't want to fight th…

I reckon goblins could be dirty fighters, though. Could I fight a leprechaun instead? Not, like, a wussy one – I mean like the one in the horror movie, Leprechaun, who's pretty evil. I'd like to see how that fight went."

YOU WALK INTO A ROOM ONLY TO BE CONFRONTED BY YOUR DOPPELGÄNGER – HOW DO YOU REACT?

"I'd have some questions: what have you done with your life? Are you as unhappy as I am? Are we equally miserable? I'm kidding! It would be traumatic, though, because I'm sure that mirrors and pictures of me are lying. I don't look like *that*, do I?! Having to look at another me would fucking suck!"

HOW WOULD YOU REACT IF SOMEONE PINNED YOU DOWN AND SHAVED OFF ALL YOUR HAIR?

"That would be a declaration of war! I don't care who you are, that's it. I personally don't believe in physical violence, we have better ways of solving problems these days, but you do that and you've devolved me 20,000 years. You're *going down*!"

So, your last barber wasn't very good, then?

SPIRITUAL HEADMELTER...

IF YOU DIE IN YOUR DREAMS, DOES THAT MEAN YOU DIE IN REAL LIFE?

"When I was younger I died in my sleep often, and I'm still here. I actually killed a lot of people, too. I could also fly, which was great – kill someone and then take off like a ballistic missile! You fuckers aren't catching me!"

Just in case there's any confusion – Mortiis, we are never, ever invading your dreams…

THE VERDICT

HE'S A DOUR MAN, BUT MORTIIS KNOWS HOW TO ROCK'N'TROLL…

SCORE 90%

THE LEADERBOARD

1	ALICE COOPER	99%
2	GENE SIMMONS KISS	93%
3	MORTIIS	90%
4	BRENDON URIE PANIC! AT THE DISCO	85%
5	DERYCK WHIBLEY SUM 41	83%
6	ALEX GASKARTH ALL TIME LOW	75%
7	DENIS STOFF ASKING ALEXANDRIA	73%
8	NEIL FALLON CLUTCH	69%
9	BEN BARLOW NECK DEEP	65%
10	??????? ???????	???
11	??????? ???????	???
12	??????? ???????	???
13	??????? ???????	???
14	??????? ???????	???

"A MEMBER OF ABBA BOUGHT ONE OF MY ALBUMS…"

MORTIIS

WORDS: DAN SLESSOR

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